Guide to the Records of Regional Archives Kozhikode

Kerala State Archives Department

A GUIDE TO THE RECORDS OF REGIONAL ARCHIVES KOZHIKODE

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Director's Note

A Guide to the Records of Regional Archives, Kozhikode is a golden key to unlock the treasures that are preserved in its repository. This publication is designed with an introductory chapter that highlights a brief history of Malabar. It attempts to trace the political vicissitudes of Malabar till the formation of modern Kerala. Thereafter it traces the administrative system of the Madras Presidency where Malabar remained an integral part. It forms the base for the preservation and maintenance of records on the basis of the Departmental files. The third chapter directly deals with the description of Records at the Regional Archives, Kozhikode. It presents a comprehensive account of all the records that are available in its safe custody. It would definitely be of immense value to the students, teachers and the public who wish to know a detailed account of the documents. It can serve as a guide and index to reach the documents.

The Department of Archives is always greatful to Sri. M.A. Baby, the Honourable Minister for Education and Cultural Affairs, Government of Kerala for his remarkable interest in the archival publications that would help the researchers and students. Similarly we are thankful to Dr. V. Venu, IAS for his encouragement in the archival studies.

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J. Rejikumar
Director

Content

Chapter 1

A Brief History of Malabar

Malabar District, one of the most populous and beautiful districts in the Madras Presidency or the Presidency of Fort Saint George, has to its credit a noticeable history even from distant past. This district extends from north to south along the coast, a distance of about one hundred and fifty miles and lying between North Latitude 10° 15' and 12° 18' and East Longitude 75° 14' and 76° 15'. The boundaries of the Malabar are north, south Kanara district, east, Coorg, Mysore, Nilgiris, Coimbatore, South, the Native State of Cochin.

The word 'Malabar' is supposed to be derived from two words. The first part 'Mala' is an ordinary Diravidian word which means hill or mountain and the second 'bar' is either an Arabic or Persian word meaning continent or country. Thereafter the term Malabar is meant the hilly or mountainous country and when we consider its physical features this name seems to be more apt.

EARLY HISTORY

Devoid of historical facts, the early history of Malabar is lost in obscurity. Actually inscriptions and works of classical geographers and Tamil poets form a valuable source of information for the early history of Malabar. But they do not help us in reconstructing in full its early history. However, it is certain that during the Sangam age, Malabar formed part of the Empire of Cheras. Although not much details are available regarding life and culture of the District during this period, Malabar played a leading part in fostering trade relatious with outside world.

Tradition asserts that the strip of land between the Western Ghats and the Arabian Sea forming the Malabar District was raised out of the sea. Later Brahmins have utilized this tradition under the guise of Parasurama, who recovered the coast from the sea, brought Brahmins from the north, and partitioned out the land among them.

It is generally accepted that the early inhabitants of Malabar were the Cheroomar and Poliyar who were the slaves of the soil. Until recently they were brought and sold with the land. We also see in Malabar the jungle tribes, such as the Coorumbar, Panniyar and Coorichiyar who represent respectively the nomadic, agricultural and hunting tribes.

Among the three great ancient kingdoms of Southern India-Chera, Chola and Pandya- the first Chera lay to the west and included nearly the whole of the Malabar Coast. The rulers of Chera were locally called Perumals (literally, greatmen), and there is every chance that in the 3rd century BC the Malabar Coast had a well-organised form of Government. The history of these Perumals has been lost; they are traditionally reported to have reigned for twelve years. It is also stated that they have held at every twelve year a great gathering of their feudatories at Tirunavayi which was styled as Mamamkam.

The legendary history of Malabar composed by the Brahmins is not worthy of credit. There is no certainty that the Brahmins ever acquired any sovereignty in the district, although the people appear to have been welcomed them. But the Namboodiri Brahmins founded their Gramams and their Devasoms and soon began to exercise a powerful influence in the Council Chamber of the Nayar King. The Chirakkal Raja of the Kolathiri family, and the Travancore Raja who is a branch of the same family, are representatives of the ancient Nayar Kings. Similarly, the Walluvanad Raja of the Vellattiry family is a representative of another ancient kingdom. The smaller Rajahs of Malabar are perhaps representatives of the families of the old chieftains of the country. At the time of Megasthenes in the 4th century B.C., there were a number of independent kingdoms in Malabar. It is ascertained from local tradition that Chera, Chola and Pandya all exercised some kind of sway in Malabar, though finally Chera obtained the supremacy.

Generally it is stated that the advent of the Aryans took place in the first three centuries of the Christian era. The Buddhist missionaries probably preceded the Brahmins. Kerala is one of the countries mentioned in the first edict of Asoka. Although, according to tradition, some of the Chera Kings favoured the introduction of Buddhism it never achieved a rooted hold in the district. Malabar was for centuries a stronghold of Brahminsm. Shut off by the long range of the Western Ghats from other centres of civilization, it maintained an isolated existence.

As far as the early history of Malabar is concerned, we get a description of it in a passage in the Periplus of the Erythrean sea, written probably in the 3rd century A.D. But for the next five centuries there is little information of the changes which took place in Malabar. The names of only three of the perumals have been historically preserved. They are Bhaskara Ravi Varma, Vira Raghava Chakravarthi and Sthanu Ravi Varma. Sthanu Ravi Varma is supposed to be the last Cheraman Perumal (literally great man of the Chera people) who embraced Islam and sailed for Mecca in 824 A.D. after renouncing his functions in favour of his great vassals, of whom the families of the Travancore Maharajas the Zamorin of Kozhikode, the Walluwanad Raja and the Palakkad Raja are represented.

MALABAR FROM 825 A.D TO 1498 A.D.

The withdrawal of Cheraman Perumal to Arabia is attributed to the growing influence of the Zamorin. At that time the country had probably been broken into petty states. For centuries Zamorin of Kozhikode was the most distinguished King of Malabar. In the 8th century he had been *utayavar* of Eralinad of Eranad. It is stated that Eranad was the most significant of the 'nadu' divisions under the Chera dominion. The Zamorin family is sometimes called the Eradi dynasty, and sometimes the Nediyiruppu dynasty as the chief of this 'nadu' had his residence in Nediyiruppu, which is today an almost abandoned village in the present day Malappuram district. Gradually they expanded their power westward to reach upto the flourishing port of Kozhikode.

The Zamorin's first act of aggression after the departure of Chreman Perumal was to dispossess the Chieftain of Poland, the country round about Kozhikode. One tradition says that for forty eight years Zamorin waged war with the Chief of Poland, the Porlattiri Raja. In the end he succeeded by winning over his antagonist's troops through treachery, As Zamorins's troops were admitted into his fort, the Porlathiri Chief fled to the protection of the North Kolathiri. The Kadathanad Raja of North Malabar was descended from one of the females of this family.

In course of time, Zamorin spread his sphere of influence over Parappukkovil or Beypore, Parappanad and Vettattunad and established an ardent base at Ponnani, a port town. Later Ponnani became a second residence for the Zamorin.

Significantly, when Vasco da Gama arrived in Kozhikode as on many other occasions, the Zamorin was residing at Ponnani. This town had immense possibilities of trade with outside world as it was lying at the mouth of the river Bharathapuzha. Thus Ponnani was favoured by Arab traders almost on an equal footing with Kozhikode. Naturally Zamorin benefited a lot from the control of this town. Afterwards he extended his domain upto the region of Guruvayur.

The first reference of Zamorin of Kozhikode is seen in the accounts of Sheik Ibn-Batuta (1342-1347). It seems that in the beginning of the 14th century, Kozhikode became a predominant power in the political history of Kerala. In his account Batuta observed Kalikut (Calicut) as one of the great ports of the district of Malabar and further added that merchants from different places were found there. He also added that the Muslim merchants in the coast during the period were very rich.

There can be no doubt, however, that even in Malabar, which was free from any outside expedition, Muslim influence was on the increase. Likewise, it is not at all improbable that, at the end of 14th century A.D. the influence of the Zamorins began to preponderate in Malabar and subsequently he became a very efficacious ruler. He adopted several high sounding titles like *Punturakkon* or *Punturesen*, *Kunnalakonatiri*, *Manavikrama* or *Manaved* etc.

During this period Malabar had an excellent and prosperous trade relationship with outside world. Kannur, Kozhikode and Ponnani became the chief ports in the district and many Arab writers referred Malabar as the country of pepper which was the chief article of their trade. As Malabar had a number of maritime outlets, several varieties of spices, pepper, ginger and textiles were brought in direct contact with the Atlantic ports also. According to William Logan the trade in Malabar at that time was exclusively in the hands of Muslim merchants.

Apart from this vast commercial contacts with exterior world, the Tali temple which is one of the oldest temples in Malabar attracted the best scholars to the town from far and wide. The 'Revati Pattathanam', an annual competition in scholarship was held in this temple, and many of the well-known scholars of medieval Kerala in different branches of knowledge associated with this ritual.

There were many significant factors which contributed to make Malabar as one of the celebrated trading centers. Besides its geographical features, the tolerant policy of the Zamorin contributed a great deal for this commercial prominence. The religious toleration and the good administration guaranteed security to the traders. The friendly attitude of the Zamorins to all foreign traders also helped a lot for this. Thus Kozhikode was described as a "perfectly safe harbour". All these advantageous conditions facilitated for the colonial forces to establish their hegemony in Malabar.

THE PORTUGUESE PERIOD (1498-1663)

At the time of the advent of the Portuguese on the coast of Malabar, the political authority in Kerala was scattered into big and small kingdoms, and there had been no strong central power. These big and small rulers exercised varying degrees of political efficacy. The Kolathiri Raja of Kannur and the Zamorin of Kozhikode were among the major chiefs, with the Zamorin occupying a place of distinction. Most of the minor chiefs were in traditional subordination to one or the other of the major chiefs. It was into such a feudal policy that Vasco Da Gama landed at Kappad about 15 kilometers north of Kozhikode on 27th May 1498.

The landing of Vasco Da Gama at Kozhikode was a great event in the history of the world. No sooner did the Portuguese arrive there they started negotiations with the Zamorin's officers. The Zamorin who was at this time at Ponnani sent instructions to his officers to receive the Portuguese with due respect. It was the pilots of Zamorin who guided the Portuguese ships to the harbour at Pantalayani Kollam where they were safe from the vagaries of the weather. At that time the Arab merchants influence at Malabar was paramount and they had the monopoly of the trade and created many a hurdle in the path of the Portuguese. Through his untiring efforts, Vasco Da Gama finally got a chance to have a meeting with the Zamorin.

It was after a prolonged discussion that Gama succeeded in obtaining permission from the Zamorin to build a factory at Kozhikode. The Muslim traders of the town did not like this and they tried their best to make an estrangement between the Zamorin and the Portuguese. On his return voyage to Lisbon Gama also entered into an agreement with the Kolathiri Raja of Kannur who was a bitter enemy of the Zamorin.

The discovery of a sea trade route of Kozhikode resulted far reaching consequences not only in the history of Malabar but in the history of India as well. First of all, it broke down the wall of separation between India and the West and shattered the exclusiveness of Muslims who were the main carriers of trade in pepper and spices between Asia and Europe through the Suez and the Red Sea. It also created an awareness of the importance of sea power in building up their political strength. The only people who properly comprehended the political significance of these events were the Arabs. They realized this as a great menace to their commercial supremacy on the West Coast and they had to fight hard to preserve it.

Gama returned to Lisbon with immense cargo and this incited the aspirations of the Portuguese king and the people. As a result, a second expedition under the command of Petro Alvarez Cabral was organized and they reached Kozhikode on the 13th September 1500. Zamorin who had been the most important supplier of pepper and spices on the Malabar Coast, received Cabral with great esteem and the latter got permission to establish a factory of their own for the purchase of spices. The Arabs did not recognize their right to trade in spices and so they did not co-operate with them. The rise of Portugal as a maritime power resulted rivalry between them and serious fights were witnessed in the Malabar Coasts. The deliberate brutalities of the Portuguese made Zamorin their obstinate enemy and from here onwards his policy towards the alien power underwent a drastic change.

Thus Carbal and his men found it difficult to stay at Kozhikode and as a result they set sail for Cochin. The ruler of Cochin at that time was only a minor king and he granted to the Portuguese all facilities to trade. In entering into an alliance with the Portuguese, the Cochin Raja, who was at that time not in friendly terms with Zamorin, had hidden political motives. For the Portuguese also Cochin Raja was a good friend and their common hatred of the Zamorin was a strong tie between them.

At the Malabar Coast, the Portuguese had to face violent resistance from Muslim traders. Although they did not possess a strong leader of their own, the rich Muslim merchants like Kunjali Marakkars of Kottakkal who were harassed by the Portuguese, resisted strongly. The Marakkars were the hereditary

Admirals of the Zamorin and the King recognized and admired their audacity and loyalty and bestowed on the head of the family the title of Marakkar and the special right to wear a silk turban. So long as Zamorins were fighting against the Portuguese, Marakkars also fought on their side. But the indignation of the Portuguese was mostly turned against the Arabs and Moors than against local Mappilas as they posed only an insignificant challenge to their trade monopoly. It is said that some of the Koyas of Kozhikode, who were local Muslim traders or brokers, had worked as the agents of the Portuguese off and on.

Zamorin was the first ruler with whom the Portuguese came into contact on the Coast of Malabar. But later the same ruler of Malabar proved to be the greatest problem for the colonial power. In the initial stages, the sole concern and interest of the Portuguese were in trade and commerce. Subsequently the innumerable inhuman actions committed by them in the coast were beyond descriptions and these deeds earned them a notoriety that was hitherto unheard in the history of Kerala. Paradoxically, not a single ruler of Kerala was annoyed on these brutalities as long as there was no intimidation to their status or source of income. In spite of all these, it is a historical fact that it was through this trade and commerce that India was brought into an extensive spectrum of European economy right from 1500 A.D.

THE DUTCH, ENGLISH AND FRENCH SETTLEMENTS (A.D. 1663-1766)

Although the Dutch period in the history of Malabar is generally supposed to begin with their capture of the port of Kannur in February 1663, their Admiral Steven Van Deo Hagen had come Kozhikode in October 1604. Despite oppositions from the Portuguese, he was cordially received by the officers of the Zamorin and signed a treaty with him on 11 November 1604. The Dutch were great enthusiastic in collecting spices from the Malabar Coast and this treaty helped them a lot and thereby they were allowed to build a fort at Kozhikode. This was the first attempt made by the Dutch to establish trade on the coast. Historically this treaty was not insignificant as it was the first political agreement with a ruling prince of India. But it did not produce any substantial or concrete political results in Malabar.

As noted above, in February 1663 the Dutch captured the port of Kannur

and afterwards they occupied the Portuguese fortress also. From the regions around the port of Kannur, they procured pepper. By supplying pepper regularly to the Dutch Company, the Kolathiri and Ali Raja of Kannur also obliged them. In 1771 Ali Raja purchased from the Dutch the port of Kozhikode along with the fortress.

Although the Dutch made imperishable contributions in the economy of Kerala by introducing new scientific methods in the field of agriculture, the rise of other European powers like the English and the French shattered their schemes. These European powers had better marine supremacy than the Dutch.

It was at this time that the English also found it necessary to have commercial relations with Malabar Coast. In 1615 Captain Keeling had arrived at Calicut with three ships. They concluded a treaty with the Zamorin according to which the former were to assist the latter in expelling the Portuguese from Cranganore and Cochin. In return they will have absolute freedom of trade in the dominions of Zamorin. But this treaty did not produce the desired effect as the English faced severe competitions in Malabar from other European powers.

By 1634-35, the Portuguese power in Kerala began to deteriorate and as a result English East India Company entered into a treaty with them. This treaty enabled the English to have a free access to all the Portuguese ports in Kerala. Thus it was started that in 1636 pepper was for the first time exported to England, direct from Malabar. To widen their trade relations in Malabar Coast, the English established their factory at Kozhikode in November 1669. At that time Talasseri was under the Kolathiri. Vadakkalamkur (northern regent) of the dynasty permitted the English East India Company to build a factory and a fort at Talassery on 20th August 1708.

Pepper and other sorts of commodities available in Malabar attracted the French too to the coast and they came to Kannur region especially Baliapatam. The ruler of Kannur offered Baliapatam to them in 1668. It was in 1669 that the French came to Kozhikode.

Another important centre of European trade south of Kannur and North of Kozhikode was Talasserry from where too the French collected commodities they needed. Though the French established a factory of their own in Talassery, their trade with this port was not as prominent as the one

possessed by the English. At that time Mahe, extending upto Badagara, was the maritime outlet of Kadathanadu Raja. The French obtained the monopoly of the purchase of pepper from Mahe and its surroundings through a convention signed on April 12,1721

The English, who had already built a factory and a fort at Talassery, wanted to purchase pepper from Mahe also. So they came into an agreement in 1736 whereby the French and the English were allowed to purchase it in alternative years at the price fixed in advance. But here the French were given a favoured treatment. It is stated that large quantity of cardamom brought from the remote areas of Wayanad was also exported to Europe from Mahe.

RIVALRY BETWEEN THE ENGLISH AND THE FRENCH

The sole concern of the English East India Company was to foster their trade and this prevented them from involving any serious military enterprises in Malabar for a long time. This policy was however, inevitable for their colonial motive through which they wanted to squeeze maximum possible benefits. In spite of all these, for the sake of their own advantages, they began to interfere in native politics now and then. In North Malabar, where the French had a strong hold, they had to face grave threat. On one occasion the French and the English were face to face with each other and they began to intrigue for the support of the native princes in their struggle for political and commercial supremacy. They fought many a time and eventually in 1728 the two factories agreed to live in peace and mutual co-operation. But their hostilities continued some more decades and in course of time the French power in Malabar began to weaken and the English benefited considerably from this.

HYDER ALI'S INVASION OF MALABAR

As noted earlier, neither the French nor the English could stay away from interference in the internal political strife in North Malabar. It was in June 1761 that Hyder Ali became a decisive factor in Mysore. His meteoric rise from the status of a mere soldier excited fear and jealousy among all neighbouring powers. No sooner did he become the ruler of Mysore than he demanded Zamorin of Kozhikode to pay the war indemnity of Rs. 12 lakhs. As Zamorin could not comply with the demand, Hyder decided to invade Kozhikode with a huge army in 1766.

On the way he was helped by Ali Raja of Kannur and the local Muslims. He did not attack Talassery nor did he visit the town. But he visited Mahe with a force of 1000 men in April 1766 and from there he proceeded to Kozhikode. On 20th April Hyder entered the town of Kozhikode and encamped himself at Palayam. Zamorin, who was not in a position to meet the demand of the aggressor, was highly conscious of his inability to defend, set fire to his palace in an act of self-immolation after sending the members of his family to Ponnani on 27th April, 1766. This miserable act of Zamorin made Hyder the master of the place and from here he engaged himself in vigorous diplomatic activities. But circumstances did not allow him to stay here for long and his army which was already facing an arduous situation wanted to withdraw. In the meanwhile, the then Zamorin agreed to pay an annual tribute to Hyder and he returned from Kozhikode.

In 1773 Hyder, with the intention of reconquering Kerala, descended by a new route through Wayanad down the Tamarasseri Pass. Sensing the impending danger, Zamorin approached the French at Mahe for help and entered into a treaty with the Governor M. Duprat. But they could not resist the Mysorean invaders, and the Zamorin left Kozhikode and took shelter in Travancore along with other members of his family. Thus Hyder again became the unquestioned master of the ancient territories of the Zamorin.

The growing influence of Hyder was a threat not only to the rulers of Malabar but also to the English East India Company. In 1778 the rulers of Kozhikode, Kadathanad and Kottayam entered in to an alliance to throw off the yoke of Mysore and the Company came forward to encourage them by all means. War broke out between Hyder and the English and the latter was again forced to enter into negotiations with the chiefs of Malabar for a united action against Mysore. Climate was unfavourable to Hyder and English troups under Major Abington took Kozhikode on February 13, 1782. It was at this juncture that Hyder despatched his son Tipu to Malabar to restore his authority. But while the Prince was campaigning in South Malabar against the English between Ponnani and Trittala, he got the news of his father's death on 7th December 1782 and returned form Malabar to occupy his father's throne.

TIPU'S RELATIONS WITH MALABAR (1782-1789)

As soon as Tipu left for Mysore, an English troop under the leadership of Col. Fuller conquered Palakkad fort in December 1783. But by the Treaty of Mangalore in 1784, the English gave up their claims on Malabar and declared the rulers of Kerala to be the friends and allies of Tipu. This was a great victory for the Mysorean aggressor as it was an implicit recognition of his suzerainty over Malabar

But matters in Malabar were not as smooth and serene as expected when the province returned into the supremacy of Tipu, Hyder Ali, before his death, had appointed a competent officer, Arshad Beg Khan as the Governor of Malabar. While Hyder ali followed a cautious policy of conciliation, his son adopted a policy of "blood and iron". It is said that Tipu's officers in the occupied territory of Malabar oppressed the common people and this caused hated even among the Muslims of Enrad and open rebellion broke out under the leadership of the Kurukkal, a notable Muslim leader of Manjeri. As Arshad Beg Khan could not quell the disturbance, he invited Tipu who with a large army marched towards Kozhikode through Tamarasseri Pass without facing any resistance on the way in January 1788.

In Malabar Tipu wanted to introduce radical changes in the administrative set-up and the prevailing social systems. He transferred the capital of Malabar province from Kozhikode to Feroke, a site on the south bank of the Beypore river and built a strong Fort there. Although this new capital town was connected with the other parts of the country through many newly constructed roads, the transfer of capital ended in total failure.

To Tipu the marriage customs and law of inheritance prevalent in Malabar were unique and unpolished. Thus he issued a proclamation in 1788 to the people of Malabar to throw away their indecent practices. But his proclamation created great resentment and rebellion broke out in different corners. Almost all the rulers of Malabar were against Tipu and they vehemently opposed his new policies to which they could not comply with. With the help of his soldiers, Tipu also organized a regular and systematic hunt of those who opposed him in different parts of Malabar. It was after these incidents that he turned to Kannur and handed over a portion of the Chirakkal district to the Bibi of Kannur.

Afterwards the Mysore army was compelled to engage in several battles with the English and the former did meet many a defeat. In addition to this, the circumstances necessitated Tipu to withdraw from Malabar and this created a crevice in their leadership and the administrative systems constituted by him broke down entirely. These turns of events facilitated for British predominance in Malabar.

ESTABLISHMENT OF BRITISH SUPREMACY IN MALABAR

The treaty of Seringapatam signed in 1792 between the Company and the Mysore rulers compelled the former to think seriously to form a stable government in Malabar so that they might establish law and order in the province. The English were not unmindful of the importance and strategic value of the Malabar coast. It was at this time that General Abercromby, Governor of Bombay, was sent to Malabar to talk with the local rulers regarding the collection of revenue and the new form of Government. Thus the Company decided to utilize the influence and knowledge of the local rulers for maintaining peace and collecting revenue at least for a period of one year.

As a part of their political strategy, the Company representatives made talks with the Rajas of Chirakkal, Kottayam and Kadathanad in North Malabar. Accordingly, these Rajas were to exercise their power provided that they would agree to the control of the Company over them and were to accept a Resident or Dewan each to reside with them to enquire into complaints of injustice. Similarly these Rajas had to pay a fixed tribute to the Company. Thereafter, the Company or the merchants appointed by them obtained the exclusive right for pepper trade in Malabar.

It was Lord Cornwallis who sent two Commissioners, namely Jonathan Duncan and Charles Boddam, from Bengal on December 12, 1792 to co-operate with those from Bombay and they were given instructions to introduce certain regulations for the control of the pepper trade. The Commissioners made many separate agreements with Zamorins of Kozhikode and other local rulers in respect to their claims. These political settlements with the local chiefs empowered the company to introduce many reforms in revenue and judicial administration of Malabar. It was these reforms of the company and their ruthless exploitations of indigenous resources that included popular

discontentment among the people in the district. Later these dissatisfactions motivated for many revolts in Malabar.

One such early uprising was that of Pazhassi revolt also styled as Cotiote rebellion which broke out in the present day Wayanad district during the period 1800-1805. This rebellion under Kerala Varma Pazhassi Raja of Kottayam family disturbed peace and tranquility of the country for more than a decade. The revolt unquestionably shook the very foundations of British power in Malabar. Pazhassi Raja was a brave hero who had immense hold and support among the people of Malabar. He fought against the Company with unimaginable courage and valour and was martyred for the cause of the native people. Though the British suppressed the rebellion, displeasure against their authority among other sections of the society was generating in various parts also. Under the leadership of Attan Gurukkal, Unnimmotha and Chemban Pokker such revolts took place in southern parts of Erand and Walluwanad taluks.

The situations in Malabar had forced the Company to transfer the province on May 21, 1800 from the Bombay Presidency to the Madras Presidency. As a result Major Macleod was appointed as the Principal Collector of Malabar and he initiated many administrative reforms. It was only after suppressing the revolts that the Company could establish their hegemony in Malabar.

MAPPILA REVOLTS

In spite of British suppression of the peasant revolts, there arose many other uprisings in different parts of Malabar especially in Eranad and Walluwanad taluks where Mappilas constitute a respectable number. British Government advocated a rigid policy of repression by enacting various acts. These strong measures enraged the Mappilas and as a result in 1855 H.V. Conolly, the district collector of Malabar was brutally murdered at his bungalow at Kozhikode. However powerfull measures were taken to curtail the revolts, they continued without any assuage. A tragic outbreak occurred in Kolathur in Eranad taluk in 1873. In 1880 another serious outbreak broke out at Melattur. Uninterrupted outbreaks became a hard nut to crack for the Company. Thus British officials like William Logan and H. Wigram were empowered to enquire the matter and they came to a conclusion that the agrarian discontentment and poverty were the major causes for these disturbances.

In addition to the revolts mentioned above, the Malabar district witnessed several such outrages in various other places like Ariyakkod and Pandikkad between 1883 and 1898. Innumerable excesses were committed by the Special Police Force and British troops who were deployed to quell the disturbances. In many places Mappila rebels, whose attitude was one of open defiance deliberately courted death and towards 1898 the unrest began to subside as the outraging community became less compassionate for violent outbreaks.

Generally the condition in Malabar between 1898 and 1915 was practically calm and serene. The unrest had become a thing of the past and the Mappilas who became more and more aware of the new developments occurring in the country, began to take advantage of these favourable conditions that were opening before them. As a result they began to engage in trade and business and some were enlisted in the British army. A good number among the community also began to take modern education and their outlook and relations with the members of other communities and classes became more intimate than ever before.

BEGINNING OF THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT

Even from the very inception of the Indian National Congress in 1885, it attracted the attention of a large number of people in the district. But it was in 1908 a District Congress Committee was formed in Malabar and an organized political activity began only during the period of the first world war. In 1916 Dr. Annie Beasant founded All India Home Rule, and in the same year a branch of it started functioning in the district with K.P. Kesava Menon as its Secretary. At that time Menon was also the Secretary of the Malabar District Congress Committee. Thus many meetings and processions were organized in different parts of Malabar and these activities enabled the two organizations to start many new branches in the district. This ultimately helped them to broaden their political influence among the people.

It was in 1916 that the first Malabar district political conference was held at Palakkad under the presidency of Dr. Annie Beasant. Thence forward such political conferences were held every year and second and third conferences took place at Kozhikode and Talasseri in 1917 and 1918 respectively. Then in 1919 under the presidency of K.P. Kesava Menon, the fourth conference was held at Badagara. One noticeable factor in these

conferences was that the leaders who attended in them were supporters of constitutional agitation rather than in militant action. Hence the resolutions passed at the conferences were not at all revolutionary. Instead they were appeals to the British Government for increased representation in the legislature, expansion of local self-governing bodies, provision of better facilities for education, repeal of repressive laws like Mappila Acts etc. It must be noted here that in all these political conferences the landlords and the elite of Malabar played not an insignificant role.

The year 1920 was a turning point not only in the history of Malabar but also in Kerala as well. The fifth Malabar district political conference was held at Manjeri on 28th April, 1920 and it was attended by about 1300 delegates from all parts of the district. The main topic of discussion was that of Montague Chemsford Reforms of 1919. A faction within the Congress Party held the view that the Reforms were progressive while a large number opined it was unsatisfying. K.P. Kesava Menon who moved the main political resolution in the conference stated that the Reforms were unsatisfactory and disappointing as India was already prepared for full self government. Dr. Annie Beasant and her adherents strongly opposed this resolution. But when it was put to vote it carried an enormous majority and ultimately it resulted in the walk out of those who opposed the resolution.

Thus the first open rupture between the extremists and the moderates within the Congress unveild at Manjeri Conference.One characteristic feature of the conference was that it was attended by a large number of Muslim delegates. The representatives of the landlords clearly sided with the moderates while those of tenants and the workers sided with the extremists. After the Manjeri Conference, the leadership of the Congress Party passed into the hands of the extremists who actually represented the tenants, the workers and the middle class.

THE NON-CO-OPERATION AND KHILAFAT MOVEMENTS

As elsewhere in India, the Non-Co-operation Movement in Malabar also was accompanied by universal boycott of councils, titles, foreign goods, courts of law and educational institutions. When Mahatma Gandhi had assumed the leadership of the Indian National Congress in 1920, the Nagpur session of the Congress decided to abandon constitutional methods of agitation and turn

to non-violent non-co-operation with the government as a means to accomplish freedom. Students, lawyers and other classes of society actively participated in the movement whole heartedly.

The Non-Co-operation Movement in Malabar coincided with Khilafat Movement. Actually this movement began as a protest against the action of the British Government during the first world war relating to Turkey. The Khilafat issue drew the attention of Indian Muslims as well as other communities. As a result it was decided by the congress to organize the Khilafat work under the guidance of Mahatma Gandhi and this encouraged the Congress to promote Hindu-Muslim unity in Malabar. The outcome of this joint movement was far reaching and a lot of Khilafat committees were formed in various parts of Malabar. It was at this time that many national leaders of the Congress Party visited Malabar.

The first All Kerala Provincial Conference attended by Congress representatives from Malabar, Cochin and Travancore was held at Ottapalam under the presidency of T. Prakasam. This conference gave a chance to bring together for the first time Congress workers from all parts of Kerala on a common platform. During the conference some prominent leaders of Congress and Khilafat were manhandled by Hitchcock, the then District Superintendent of Police. But the response of the audience to this atrocity was remarkable and their passive resistance was a true embodiment for Mahatma Gandhi's non-violence principle.

THE MALABAR REBELLION OF 1921

As stated above the non-no-operation movement and Khilafat movement had received widespread support from the rural population of Malabar. The reason for this rebellion was the repressive measures adopted by the Government against these movements. The tax policy of the authorities also contributed for this. The popular appeal in favour of Khilafat Movement in Eranad and Walluwanad taluks intimidated the British Government and section 144 was proclaimed. It was at this time that a violent outbreak took place at Pookottur in the Eranad taluk when the police entered the mosque at Tirurangadi under the guise of searching for Vadakkaveettil Muhamad, the Secretary of the local Khilafat Committee alleging that he had stolen a rifle

from the Kovilakam of the Nilambur Tirumulpad. This roused the religious feelings of the Muslims and many a violent outbreak broke out in different places of these two taluks.

The pattern of rebel action in all places was almost similar. The object of the rebels was to overthrow the Government established by law in British India and the methods employed were the fighting against the British troops. They attacked and destroyed government offices and police stations, burnt records and looted treasuries. They also disrupted communication systems by cutting telegraph wires, and destroyed culverts and bridges. The prominent leaders of this rebellion were Varian Kunnath Kunhahammed Haji, Ali Musaliyar, Seethi Koya Thangal and Chembrasseri Thangal. The rebellion soon spread to the neighbouring areas and Tirurangadi, Pookottur, Malappuram, Manjeri, Perinthalmanna, Pandikkad, Tirur, etc. became cardinal centres of the rebellion. None of the rebel leaders was able to assume overall direction and control. Inspite of this, they tried to co-ordinate their activities and evolved certain administrative procedures. For a few weeks the rebels established a Government of their own by remitting land tax and issuing passports. A large number of severe fights took place in different parts between the rebels and the British troops.

One of the most inhuman and barbarous methods adopted by the British in suppressing the rebellion occurred on 10th November 1921. It was on this day that 90 Mappila rebels were arrested. As the jails in Malabar were filled with rebels it was decided that they ought to be taken to far off places like Bellari in Tamil Nadu. Hence they were thrust into a closed railway goods wagon by armed British troops. The train started from Tirur for Coimbatore and later when the wagon was opened it was found that 64 of the inmates had died of suffocation and that the remaining were almost dead. This incident styled as Wagon Tragedy, roused feelings of horror and indignation not only among the people of Malabar but also the whole country as well.

Although Congress leaders like M.P. Narayana Menon, K. Madhavan Nair, K. Kelappan, E. Moidu Maulavi, Mohamad Abdu Rahiman and Hassan Koya Molla tried their best efforts to uphold the principle of non-violence, many cruelties were committed by the Mappilas during the rebellion. When the police brutalities became unbearable, they decided to meet violence with

violence. Finally by creating a rift among the people, the government suppressed the rebellion.

The rebellion which lasted for six months was really a complex incident. Although there are divergent opinions regarding the character of the rebellion, it is generally accepted that basically it was an anti-feudal and anti-colonial uprising.

THE CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMEMENT

The general political atmosphere in Malabar in the post-rebellion period was not favourable to any kind of activity under the auspices of the Congress. The authorities put many restrictions upon Congress leaders and this lull in political activity resulted in the birth of the two Malayalam newspapers - "Mathrubhumi" (1921) and "Al-Ameen" (1924). These newspapers played a significant part in fostering the spirit of nationalism among the people of Malabar.

In May 1928 the 4th All Kerala Provincial Conference was met at Payyannur under the presidency of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. A noticeable resolution passed by the conference was the demand for complete independence. This conference created great impact on people and it accepted the activities of the Congress in Malabar. Likewise, the strike of the South Indian Railway employees in July 1928 was a clear indication of the growing political awareness of the working class. It was at this time that the tenant farmers and simple lease holders decided to organize themselves to fight against the exploitation and suppression of the authorities and jenmis.

SALT SATYAGRAHA AND GURUVAYUR SATYAGRAHA

Salt Satyagraha of 1930 was one of the conspicuous movements which began as a part of the nationwide Civil Disobedience Movement. The decision of Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee to break salt law roused great impulse and hundreds of Congress volunteers proceeded to Kozhikode and Ramanthali (Payyannur) and manufactured contraband salt. The government handled the agitation with iron hand and many Congress leaders like P. Krishna Pillai, Mohammad Abdurahiman and R.V. Sarma were severely manhandled. The police arrested these leaders along with Kelappan, T.R. Krishna Swami Ayyar and K. Madhavan Nair. These cruelties of the police only made the agitation more intensified and the picketing of toddy shops, boycott of foreign goods

and breach of salt laws went on everywhere in Malabar. A remarkable feature of this movement was that students also took a diligent part in response to the call of the K.P.C.C. Mahatma Gandhi was released on 26th January 1931 and as a result of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact of 4th March 1931, the Civil Disobedience Movement was revoked.

The sudden withdrawal of the Civil Disobedience Movement caused popular discontentment among the young Congressmen throughout the country. As the Gandhi-Irwin Pact contained a provision permitting peaceful picketing of toddy shops, Congressmen in Malabar organized widespred such picketing. It was at this time that the Badagara session of the K.P.C.C. was held on May 5, 1931. One significant resolution passed by this session was the right of temple entry to all Hindus irrespective of caste consideration. The celebrated Guruvayur Satyagraha which began on 1st November 1931 under the leadership of K.Kelappan was an audacious step taken by the K.P.C.C. in pursuance of this resolution. A.K.Gopalan was the Captain of the Satyagraha volunteers and Mannath Padmanabhan, N.P. Damodaran and T.Subramanian Tirumumbu were the other prominent leaders of this agitation. The success of this agitation was a land mark in the nationalist movement in Malabar and the credit for this goes to Indian National Congress.

In the meanwhile the Congress had renewed the Civil Disobedience Movement as a result of the failure of the Round Table Conference. Although the Government declared Congress an unlawful organization, its meeting was held at Kozhikode in May 1932, presided over by Samuel Aaron. All the delegates were arrested and despite police oppression, the agitation continued ceaselessly. One characteristic feature of this second Civil Disobedience Movement was that a large number of women like Kuttimalu Amma took an active participation in it. In May 1934 Gandhiji formally withdrew this movement also.

THE BEGINNING OF THE RIFT WITHIN CONGRESS

There was considerable resentment against Mahatma Gandhi among the Congressmen for having ordered suspension of civil disobedience activities. These new turn of events unveiled the already existing ideological differences within the Congress Party and as a result the Kerala Congress Socialist Party

was formed on 2nd May 1934. In course of time the failute of the Indian National Congress to meet the challenges of the time indirectly strengthened the Congress Socialist Party in Malabar. The Congress Socialist Party leaders like P. Krishna Pillai and E.M.S. Namboodiripad were keen to organize the rural population into class groups. They organized poor peasants and struggled against the landlords who cruelly exploited them. Similarly the Congress Socialist Party organized the educated unemployed and *jathas* of unemployed and hunger were held all over Malabar under the leadership of A.K. Gopalan and K.P.R. Gopalan. Organizations of aided elementary school teachers and students also sprang up in different parts of Malabar under the leadership of the Congress Socialist Party. All these undoubtedly revealed the fact that socialist ideology was graining tremendous influence among the various sections of the society in the district.

Gradually the leadership of the Kerala Congress passed into the hands of the Congress Socialist group. It was at this juncture that an extremist group of Nationalist Muslims under the leadership of Mohammad Abdurahiman, who was a staunch nationalist and great patriot, besides being a man of Spartan habits, started functioning within the Congress Party on October 1934. A meeting of K.P.C.C. was held at Shoranur and the cleavage within the Congress became grave when a resolution was passed expressing the lack of confidence in the efficiency of the Gandhian principles of truth and non-violence. In May 1935, the 7th Kerala Provincial Conference was held at Kozhikode and the left wing got a majority. This meeting called upon the government to concede the immediate demands of the peasants and workers. Many talks of pacifications were conducted between the leaders of the Left and Right to put an end of their rivalry. But they did not come out productive, instead became more and more sharp and acute as days went on.

Under the provisions of the Government of India Act of 1935, elections were conducted to the Madras Provincial Legislative Assembly in 1936. With huge majorities almost all Congress candidates from Malabar came out victorious despite their group factions and enmities. Therefore under the leadership of Rajagopalachari the first Congress ministry was formed in Madras in July 1937. Kongattil Raman Menon, Congress leader from Malabar was also included in

the ministry. It was during this time that the elections to the Malabar District Board were conducted and in this also Congress obtained an enormous majority. K.Kelappan was elected as the president of the District Board.

The electoral victories of the Congress created a great excitement among the people of Malabar. At the same time under the accomplished leadership of P. Krishna Pillai, E.M.S. Namboodiripad and A.K.Gopalan the socialist groups achived considerable influence in the district. It was a period when Communist Party of India was under ban and the 9th Kerala Provincial Conference held at Kozhikode in April 1938 demanded the government to withdraw the ban. In December 1939, the Congress Socialist Party unit in Malabar was formally transferred into a unit of the Communist Party of India and thenceforward they began to function as a distinct factor in the political arena of Malabar as well as Kerala.

MALABAR DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR

Second World War broke out in September 1939 and in the same month itself the Congress Working Committee strongly protested against the dragging of India into the field of war without the consent of her people. The Congress leadership decided not to co-operate with the government in its war efforts. At the sametime the All India Congress Committee had decided in 1940 to start individual satyagraha under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. But the Kerala Provincial Congress Committee called upon its units throughout Kerala to organize an anti-Imperial Day on September 15th 1940. The response to this call was received promptly and innumerable meetings and demonstrations were held in all parts of Malabar and these movements later proved to be a turning point in the history of peasant stirrings in Kerala as a whole.

Thus the workers, strikes and peasants movements became not an uncommon feature in Malabar. One such peasant movement took place in the village of Kayyur in the present day Kasargod district where the agitators confronted with the Police. On 28th March 1941, participants in the peasant processions compelled a police constable to carry the red flag and shout antigovernment slogans. In his desperate attempt to escape, the policemen jumped into the river and was stoned to death by the crowd. A large number

of people were arrested and they had been charged with attempted murder. Four persons were sentenced to death and eighteen others were convicted to varying terms of imprisonment. Kayyur riot was an esteemed peasant revolt in Malabar which invited national and international attention.

THE QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT

Like other parts of the country, Malabar also played a pivotal role in the Quit India agitation. It was on 14th July 1942 that the Congress Working Committee passed the resolution demanding the British to Quit India. Sensing the seriousness of the situation, the Government arrested most of the prominent leaders of the Congress all over India and the Party was declared an unlawful body. Everywhere in Malabar public meetings and processions were held in defiance of law. The more repressive methods the authorities sought the more violent became the agitation. Communications were disrupted, telegraph wires were cut, government records were burnt and police stations were raided. Congress leaders like K.Kelappan, Madhava Menon, Raghava Menon, E. Moidu Maulavi, C.K. Govindan Nair, A.V. Kuttimalu Amma and many others were arrested.

During this period some of the youngsters within Congress constituted themselves into socialist group under the leadership of Dr. Konnanttu Balakrishna Menon who was a close associate of Jayaprakash Narayanan. They played a potent role in the movement. One of the most sensational happenings of this period was that of Keezhariyur bomb case. Keezhariyur is a remote village in the present day Kozhikode district. In this case Dr. K.B.Menon was also charge-sheeted with many others. The accusation against them was that they conspired to make bombs for the purpose of destroying Government buildings, railway tracks, bridges, etc. Many of the accused including Dr. Menon were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment. During this period for the purpose of propagating news about the progress of the Quit India Movement, a secret journal called "Swathantra Bharatam" was published and widely circulated throughout Malabar.

The repercussions of Gandhiji's 21 day fast at Agha Ghan's palace in 1943 was tremendous in Malabar. A large number of meetings and processions

were held in different parts of the district and innumerable resolutions were passed to save the life of Gandhiji. Finally he was released from the custody unconditionally on 6 May 1944 as the Government felt that his death would worsen the situation and intensify the feelings of the people against the government. Afterwards the tension of the Second World War became more relaxed and the Quit India Movement also seemed losing its ardour.

The ban on C.P.I. was cancelled on July 23, 1942 and thenceforward they were allowed to function without any restraint. The Communists had styled the Second World War as an "Imperialist War". But at the entry of Russia into the war, they began to consider it as "people's war". This policy of the Communists did create a wide resentment among other political groups in Malabar. But it was a fact that when Congress Party in Malabar was groping in the darkness without propagating any major issues, the Communists conducted many active propaganda among the people and strove hard to make Malabar one of their strongholds.

In 1946 election to Madras Legislative Assembly, the Congress candidates who contested from Malabar district had a great victory. After the election the Communist activities began to grow on a large scale. As they could easily assess the pulse of the time many peasant revolts broke out in different parts of north Malabar with their support. At a time when India was on the threshold of freedom, the Communists in Malabar emerged as a strong and well-knit political group.

India became free in 15th Augugst 1947. At that time Kerala was made up of two princely states - Travancore and Cochin, and Malabar. Malabar was under the direct administration of the British. One of the first steps taken by independent India was to amalgamate small states together so as to make them viable administrative units. In pursuance of this policy the Travancore-Cochin states were integrated to form Travancore-Cochin State on 1st July 1949. But Malabar remained as part of the Madras province. Under the States Re-organisation Act of 1956, Travancore-Cochin State and Malabar were united to form the State of Kerala on 1st November 1956.

Chapter 2

Administrative System of the Madras Presidency

The English East India Company was constituted on the last day of 1600 under the title of "Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading into East Indies". It was a very small beginning and territorial acquisition and military defence formed no part of their policy. Gradually they acquired a domineering position by eliminating their European antagonists and concluding quick witted alliances with native states and finally cast an empire which became the " brightest jewel in the English diadem". Thus the talented Englishmen fished in the troubled waters in which others sank and swam.

In the early days of the English East India Company there was little need for an elaborate administrative organization as their interests were essentially commercial. But in course of time they had carved out a vast empire in India and this necessitated them to build up an elaborate administrative organization. The entire administration was efficiently controlled from the three presidency centers, namely Calcutta, Bombay and Madras.

The elaborate administrative machinery moulded by the Company and the growth and development of the Secretariat under British regime marked the beginning of the modern epoch. The control over the Secretariat by the alien power did continue unquestioned nearly two hundred years and systematic and well- planned steps of the Company contributed to their success in the domain of administration.

As stated above the English East India Company was given the monopoly or exclusive right to trade with India and its affairs were managed by a Governor and a committee of "twenty four". It was this committee that subsequently developed into the Court of Directors. In addition to this there was 'General court' composed of shareholders and afterwards this court came to be known as the Court of Proprietors. The Directors were elected for four years and each year six Directors went out by rotation.

When we discuss the growth of the Secretariat in Madras Presidency, mention must be made about the factory period. The Company in the initial stages had extablished only some trading centres which were named as "Factories." It was only later that the Company came to acquire extensive sovereignty in India. Hence in the history of the English East India Company the period 1600-1748 has been generally described as the "Factory period". During this period the control of business was entrusted to the chief number or "Factor" and was assisted by a council of several senior members of the factory who took decision by a majority vote of the council. The control of the Company's business at that time was purely democratic in principle. This system continued for a long time, but underwent a transformation when Company "became a political power anxious to grab fresh territories and to increase its influence at the courts of various Indian princes".

The Secretariat system in Madras Presidency started with the creation of Public Department in 1670 which dealt with all matters relating to shipping, revenue, fortifications, accounts, appointments, etc. At that time there was a provision of one Secretary in Public Department and he was empowered to conduct all business of the government. This department was also called as the Chief Secretariat of the Madras Presidency.

As a result of the territorial expansion of the English East India Company in South India, the administrative activities of different branches under the control of the council (Government) also underwent great changes. The increase in the activities relating to military matters necessitated the governmet to form new department namely Military Department in 1752. All military matters were entrusted to this department and it continued as a separate department till 1895.

All revenue matters in the Madras Presidency were dealt with in the Public Department till 1774. By withdrawing all revenue matters from Public Department a separate department called the Revenue Department was constituted in that year. Immediately after the creation of Military Department in 1752 the system of two secretaries came into existence. One secretary was made responsible to deal with the military, political and secret matters, while the other was entrusted with the public and revenue matters. This arrangement continued up to 1797.

Another consequential change took place in 1786 with the creation of various boards for the smooth functioning of the revenue administration. They were the Board of Revenue, the Board of Trade, the Military Board, the Hospital (Medical) Board and the Marine Board. Among these boards Military Board had a significant role as it was entrusted to act as an expert advisory and inspecting body to the government on all military matters. In addition to this arrangements, other subordinate Departments were also placed under the control of these Boards.

In May 1796 a Secret Department was formed in the Secretariat. This department controlled all secret matters like the relation of the East India Company with the Indian States and all work connected with the formation and execution of military plans. It was in 1798 that the Judicial Department was established.

Another important change that occurred on 21st May 1800 was that for administrative convenience the administrative control of Malabar was shifted from the Bombay Presidency to the Madras Presidency. It led to a post of Chief Secretary and three posts of Secretaries. The Chief Secretary was given the charge of all matters relating to Political and Secret Departments. Similarly Military Department was assigned to one Secretary. Commercial matters in the Public Department was given to another Secretary and the charge of Revenue and Judicial Department was entrusted to another Secretary. In1800 itself, an independent Political Department was also set up in the Secretariat as political matters began to attain great prominence in the province. All matters which bear a political nature were put under this department. The Madras Record Office was established in 1806 by William Bentinck, then Governor of Madras. Record management continued as a section of the Secretariat in Madras.

Between 1811 and 1818 the following departments were constituted to transact the business in the Secretariat.

Finance (Financial) Department (1811)
Commercial Department (1815)
Law Department(1815)
Foreign Department(1816)
Ecclesiastical Department(1818)

In 1831 another significant reorganization took place in the Secretariat. The Chief Secretary was given the additional charge of Public Department which comprised of Financial, Law, Commercial, Ecclesiastical and General Branches. Moreover, the Secretary was also made subordinate to the Chief Secretary. However, no change was effected in the Departments allocated to them.

To expedite the work of administration in the Secretariat during the period 1838-1853, the following three new Departments were constituted.

Marine Department(1838)

Public Works Department(1843)

Railway Department(1853)

In 1855, for better administrative convenience the functions of the Departments of the Secretariat were again reorgnized. As a result of this rearrangement the Political, Judicial and Public Departments were put under the immediate administrative charge of the Chief Secretary. Likewise, the administration of Revenue, Public Works and Road Departments was placed under the Revenue Secretary. This order however lasted till 1857.

The Government of India Act of 1858, which followed the revolt of 1857, diversified the very structure of the Government, and the control of the Government was transferred from the East India Company to the direct control of the British Crown. In Madras Secretariat also a few changes took place. The Chief Secretary was made in charge of Revenue, Financial, Political and Legislative Departments. The Military Department was abolished in 1895 and Madras Army was brought under the immediate control o the Governor General of India.

The following modifications were executed to deal with the functions of various Departments of the Secretariat in 1914.

1. Some subjects given to Public Department relating to the Indian Civil Service and 'listed' appointments, the Government Press, the Madras Record Office, garrisons, movement of troops, volunteers and the military staff of His Excellency the Governor and some functions of Judicial Department relating to CID and the Press Act were put under the charge of the Chief Secretary to the Government.
2. All the municipal matters excluding the lunatics and lunatic asylums were entrusted to the Revenue Secretary.

3. Medical matters connected with the lunatics and lunatic asylums were allocated to the Judicial Secretary.

With a revised nomenclature for the various Departments adopted w.e.f 1st August 1916, the administrative works of the Secretaries were again reallocated. Thus the Chief Secretary and other Secretaries were made responsible to deal with the functions of the following Departments.

1. Finance (Financial) Department: It included Financial Pensions and Separate Revenue Branches, and was placed under the charge of the Chief Secretary.
2. Public Department: It consisted of Public, Marine, Political and Ecclesiastical branches and was also under the control of the Chief Secretary.
3. Revenue Department: It was entrusted to the control of Revenue Secretary.
4. Local and Municipal Department: It consisted of Local Municipal and Plague, Medical and Legislative branches and were placed under the control of the Secretary, Local and Municipal Department.
5. Home Department: All the branches of the Home Department, viz, Judicial, Education, and Miscellaneous, etc. were allocated to the Secretary, Home Department.
6. Public Works Department: Administration of the P.W.D. was entrusted to the Secretary and Joint Secretary of the P.W.D. respectively.

Another significant change occurred in the organizational set up in 1918, when Revenue (Special) Department was formed within the Revenue Department to deal with the functions of ship building in the Marine Fund accounts, and also to subjects relating to India Defence Force (Indian Branch).However, subjects dealt within the Marine Branch relating to ship building were transferred to the Secretary to Government, Revenue (Special) Department. This Department continued till 1920.

The function of the Secretariat Departments was further reconstituted w.e.f 1st April 1921. As a result, the Political and ecclesiastical branches of the Public Department were made into separate Departments. By this measure, a new Development Department came into existence to deal with the following subjects-agriculture co-operation, civil supplies, factories, fisheries, forests (including cinchona), industries, mines, trade and veterinary, etc.

The distribution of work in different Departments of the Secretariat was again revised on the 1st July 1926. As a result the following arrangements were made for the smooth functioning of the administrative set up.

1. Public Judicial, Political and Ecclesiastical Departments continued to be under the charge of the Chief Secretary.
2. Law and Education Departments were combined to function as a single Department under the charge of a Secretary.
3. Irrigation and Railway Departments were merged with P.W.D and Labour Department was placed under the charge of a Secretary.
4. Similarly, other Departments, viz, Finanace, Development, Local Self-Government, etc. continued to function under their respective Secretaries.

On 1st April 1936, the Secretariat was recorganized comprising of the following nine Departments.

1. Public Department
2. Home Department
3. Finance Department
4. Development Department
5. Revenue Department
6. Local Self Government Development
7. Education and Public Health Department
8. Public Works Development
9. Legal Department

However, this re-organization was effected from 1st August 1936 in the Secretariat Departments.

In 1946, the Civil Supplies Branch of the Board of Revenue (which was created on 20th June 1786) was designated as a separate independent Department, viz Food Department and all related subjects were transferred to this newly formed Department.

In 1949, functions relating to agriculture were transferred from Development Department to the Food Department and the nomenclature was changed to that of Food and Agriculture Department. In addition to this, another Department called Agriculture (Food Production) Department was also constituted in 1949 and it continued till 1956.

In 1953, the Secretariat was re-organized again .The nomenclature of the Legal department was changed to Law Department in that year. In order to deal with the functions of the Government, the following nine Departments were in existence in 1953.

1. Agriculture Department
2. Finance Department
3. Health, Education and Local Administration Department
4. Home Department
5. Industries, Labour and Co-operation Department
6. Law Department
7. Public Department
8. Public Works Department
9. Revenue Department

This is in nutshell the slow paced evolution of the growth of the Secretariat in Madras Presidency. As noted above, this evolution was the result of the amalgamation, bifurcation and trifurcation of the various departments in different occasions. It is an accepted fact that Malabar always remained as one of the best administered districts in Madras Presidency before the states reorganization.

Chapter 3

Description of Records at the Regional Archives, Kozhikode

Kerala State Archives Department came into inception as a separate department in 1964 and its regional centre at Kozhikode in 1966. Most of the records stored in this repository are related to Malabar region which were under the supreme control of the collector of Malabar. This massive collection of paper records of varied nature are highly useful for both administrators and researchers and can be exploited at length. A brief description of these records, category wise, is detailed below.

1. REVENUE DEPARTMENT FILES (FOLDED TYPE)1858-1903

Revenue Department was created in 1774 and till then all revenue matters were dealt within Public Department. This system went on for a long time and in 1918, Revenue (Special) Department was formed within the Revenue Department. This department continued only upto 1920. But Revenue is still functioning as a separate department without any change in its nomenclature.

The series of this type of revenue files kept in this archives begin with a few files of 1858 and continued upto 1903. They consist of the files disposed of in the different sections of the collectorate such as public, forest, municipal, magisterial, judicial, accounts, railways, etc. Some of the significant titles which come under this category are the following .

Annual Administration Report of the Revenue Department
Papers relating to Ali Raja of Kannur
Appointments and other establishment matters in the Revenue Department
Madras Govt Acts of various nature
Acquisition of lands for different purposes
Boundary and Boundary Disputes
Papers relating to Malabar District Board

Coffee estates in Wayanad.
Correspondence on Cemeteries and Burial Grounds
Papers relating to Census
Matters on court of wards
Dams, Canals and Ferries
Paper relating to Devaswoms
Escheated property
Correspondence on Educational Matters.
Forestes an Forest Administration
Fairs and Festivals
Laccadive Islands
Lunaatic Asylums
List of stone inscriptions in Walluwanad taluk
Appointment of Kazis in Malabar
Jamabandy Reports
Papers relating to Malikhana
Mateorological Reports
Papers on Malabar Rebellion
Military Pensions
Proceedings and the G.O's of the Madras Govt.
(Most of the proceedings deal with different topics relating to Madras Presidency as a whole)
Proceedings issued by Board of Revenue
Papers relating to Property Matters.
Pilgrimage to Hedjaz
Rajahs of Malabar
Papers on railway extension in Malabar
Municipal Reports
Statistical Statements
Papers relating to Survey
Salt and Abkari Revenue
Correspondence relating to Title deeds and Jenmom deeds
Papers on State Prisoners

Suits of various nature

Papers relating to the preparation of Settlement Registers of the different taluks in Malabar district

There are 6339 files in this class and all are subject wise listed and arranged chronologically.

2. REVENUE DEPARTMENT FILES (NOT FOLDED) 1901-1970

Revenue Department files of 1901-1970 are the continuation of the files mentioned above. There are 37968 files in this group and are arranged chronologically. Subject list of the whole records is already prepared. The important titles which come under this class are given below.

Acts and Rules of various nature

Administration Reports of the different departments and municipalities

Papers relating to Arakkal Raja

Papers on Agricultural matters

Correspondence regarding Andaman Colonization Scheme

Assignment of land to Political Sufferers.

Papers relating to Boundary Matters.

Basel Mission

Papers on Burma-Malaya evacuees

Court of Wards

Criminal Tribes

Charitable Endowments

Devaswoms

Papers regarding to Depressed Classes

Establishment matters in Revenue Department

Estates

Papers relating to Election

Educational matters

Forests and Forest Administration

Ferries and Canals

Papers relating to financial assistance to T.B patients

Government Orders of various nature

Papers relating to Harijan Welfare

Correspondence on Inam
Acquisition of lands.
Laccadive Islands
Malikhana allowances given to various Kovilakoms in Malabar
Marumakkathayam
Files on Mananchira Maidan
Malabar Rebellion
Papers relating to printing presses
Ports of Malabar
Papers on old age pension
Rehabilitation of repatriates from Burma and Ceylon
Papers relating to Railways Suits
Settlement of Malabar
Survey Papers
State prisioners
Statistical informations.
Social Welfare Schemes of the Government
Wynad Colonization Scheme
Zamorin of Kozhikode

3. F–DIS FILES OF THE MALABAR COLLECTORATE (1918-1961)

This collection of files consist almost all the important orders of the Government of Madras from time to time covering the period from 1918-1961. In addition to this, they include the files created in different sections of Malabar Collector's office. They number more than fifty thousand and are arranged chronologically. The subject list of the files is under preparation. Allotment of lands in Wayanad for freedom fighters is also included in this group. The following subjects can be seen under this head.

Acts and Regulations
Administration Reports of the various departments
Papers relating to Budget Estimates
Criminal Procedure Code
Establishment matters in the Revenue Department

Papers relating to Depressed Classes
Correspondence on Educational Matters
Forest Code
Papers on Irrigation
Land acquired for various purposes
Laccadive Islands
Malabar Rebellion
Papers relating to Indian Military
Ports in Madras Presidency
Piligrimage to Hedjaz
Rules of the various nature
Statement of plague statistics
Papers relating to State prisoners
Matters on labour disputes
Government Orders on various subjects
Financial assistance to Second World War Evacuees.
Papers relating to Rural Reconstructions
List of political pensioners in Madras Presidency(1939)
Abkari Accounts
Port Blair Convicts
Papers relating to Zamorins Estate
Shipwrecks and Casualties

4. PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE (1859-1890)

Board of Revenue was constituted in 1786 to facilitate the revenue matters in the Presidency. There are 428 volumes of the board proceedings kept in this repository covering the period 1859-1890. A single volume contains many different subjects and hence each one is listed subject wise. Total number of subjects listed is 28747. This collection mostly deals with Government Orders and are related to various districts in Madras presidency. Following are some of the subjects in this group.

Madras Government Acts of varied nature
Administrative Reports of the departments

Acquisition of lands for various purposes
Arakkal Raja
Annual statements of Exports and Imports
Papers relating to Agricultural Matters
Basel Evangelical Mission
Matters relating to Boundary
Budget Estimates
Plantations in Wayanad
Court of Wards
Papers relating to Construction of Roads, Bridges and Bungalows
Canals and Ferries
Papers relating to Census
Matters relating to destruction of Wild Animals etc.
Escheated lands
Revenue department established matters
Papers of Ecclesiatical Natural
Papers relating to Educational Matters
Estates
Papers on Exhibitions
Papers relating to Forests Department
Fairs and Festivals
Famine Relief Works
Irrigation in Madras Presidency
Jamabandy Report
Jails
Laccadive Islands
Local Fund Works
Papers relating to Lunatic Asylum
Malikhana Allowances
Marine and Sea Customs
Mulberry cultivation in Malabar Nilambur Plantations
Nilambur Raja
Papers relating to Ports

Revenue Settlements
Religious Endowments
Papers relating to Railway Extension
Report on Cattle Disease
Papers relating to Trade
Zamorin Raja of Kozhikode

5. CORRESPONDENCE FILES (1859-1937)

This series comprises the correspondences which passed between different departments during the period 1859-1937. They include the outward and inward letters of the departments like Revenue, Land Revenue, Magisterial, Criminal, Railway, Accounts, Miscellaneous, Stamp, Postal, Ecclesistical, Survey, Education, Marine (Sea Customs), Paper currency, Abkari, Road and Bridge, Telegraph, etc. This category includes a total 972 volumes and a particular volume contains a specific subject and hence they are listed subject wise. The details of a few conspicuous subjects in this group are:

Administration Reports
Alienation and Acquisition of Lands
Matters relating to Abkhari and Opium
Correespondence on Boundary
Basel Mission
Canals, Ferries and Dams
Correspondence relating to Cemeteries
Census Papers
Devaswoms
Extension of Railways in Malabar
Escheated lands
Papers relating to Educational Matters
Estates
Correspondence on Emigration
Papers relating to Forests
Government Orders on various subjects
Jamabandy Reports
Papers relating to Jails

Laccadive Islands
List of title holders Minor irrigation works in Malabar
Malikhana Allowances
Malabar Rebellion
High Court and Sessions Court Judgements
Correspondence relating to Pilgirimage to Mecca
Papers relating to Ports and Customs
Postal Department Correspondence.
Rajahs of Malabar
Roads and Bridges
Correspondence relating to State Prisoners
Survey and Settlement in Malabar
Shipwreck
Treasury Accounts

6. TELLICHERRY COURT RECORDS (1807-1899)

In the ancients period the system of administration of justice was crude and primitive in several respects. The ruler had all the supreme rights and he was assisted in his task by his Karyakars and the Brahmins. There was no written code of laws and the severity of the punishment depended on the gravity of the crime. Mutilation and fines were the more common forms of punishment of the period, although the penalty of death was reserved for the more serious offences. However, the prevailing law was not equalitarian.

The British set up a new system for the administration of justice in Malabar in 1792. In 1802 judicial and executive functions of the administration were segregated and a provincial court was established at Tellicherry. Zilla Courts were also established at Tellicherry and Calicut. Later a principal Sudr Amin's court was also set up at Tellicherry. In 1875 the designation of the exisiting courts was changed. The civil and sessions Judges at Tellicherry and Calicut became the District and sessions Judges of North and South Malabar, and the provincial Sudr Amin became the Subordinate Judge. Tellicherry has since then always been the headquarters of District Judge.

Tellicherry Court records in the possession of this regional respository are in judgements forms. They were transferred to this archives in 1996. There

are 10142 judgements in this category. Most suits are related to property matters such as eviction, partition or recovery of land. In that sense most of them depict a clear picture of the family affairs of North Malabar. A few judgements are related to South Kanara and they give light to the social condition and family set up of the period.This collection includes the judgements of Auxiliary Zilla Court, Badaga, Cannanore, Chavassery Civil Court of Tellicherry, Kavai, Nadapuram, North Malabar, Payyoli, Panoor, Payanad, Principal Court, Quilandy, Sudre Amin Court. Sudre adalat, Provincial Court of the Western Division, Tellicherry, Taliparamba,Tellicherry, Tukkidi Munsif Court,Vayitri,Vadakkepakuthiyil Zilla Adalat Court and Zilla Court of Canara.

A few noticeable titles which come under this category of records are given below:

Prominent Rajas of Malabar district such as Zamorin of Kozhikode, Ali Raja of Cannanore, Kadathanad Raja, Kottayam Raja, Chirakkal Raja Kuttiprom Raja and others.

Boundary matters and boundary disputes.

References to British business companies

Pepers relating to various Kovilagoms in Malabar

Jenmi and tenants relationship

Matrilineal and Partrilinal (Marumakkathayam and Makkathayam) systems in Malabar

Hindu Law

Mappila tarwad and its management

Devaswom Management

References to temples and various festivals and ceremonies connected with them

Social customs and ritual of various classes and communities of North Malabar

References to places of worship such as temples, mosques and churches and their management

Religious customs and practices of various communities

Prominent tarwards of North Malabar

Various Nambudiri illoms and their management

Family hereditary systems

7. TELLICHERRY SUB COLLECTOR OFFICE RECORDS (1845-1979)

For administrative convenience, Malabar was divided into North Malabar and South Malabar on March 30, 1793 and Tellicherry and Cherpulassery became the centres of administration respectively. After the second Mysore war, Tellicherry was ceded to Malabar and the Company established this office which was then called as Assistant Superintendent Office. There are many important records in the possession of this office as it is one of the earliest offices in Malabar. It was in 1996 that 9210 files were transferred to this archives covering the period 1845-1979. Subject list is available for reference. Following are some of the noteworthy subjects in this category of files.

Acts and Regulations
Administration Reports of the different departments
Arakkal Raja
Board proceedings and Government Orders.
Matters relating to Boundary
Board Standing Orders
Budget Estimates
Papers relating to Census
Circulars of various nature
Devaswoms
Escheats
Estates and Plantations in Wayanad
Papers relating to Irrigation Works
Nambudiri Illoms
Special branch reports on the activities of the political parties.
Zamorin and other Rajas of Malabar
Land Acquisitions
Correspondence relating to newspapers
Suits regarding rent recovery, property matters etc.
Famine relief works
Marumakkathayam system

Malikhana allowances
Papers relaing to Railway
Title deeds
Sale of waste lands in Wayanad
Records relating to survey
Paper relating to Police Department
Matters relating to religious institutions
Revenue Department establishment matters

8. ARCHIVAL PUBLICATIONS

A huge collection of more than 4000 rare and valuble reference books are kept in this respository. These books are one of the main sources for the researchers and administrators. For easy retrieval these are classified under different heads as noted below:

A. Acts

Unrepealed Central Acts(1834-1937)
A Collection of the Acts passed by the Governor General of India in Council (1856-1920)
India Acts(1890-1953)
(Legislative Dept)
Acts passed by the Governor of Fort St.George in Council(1864-1920)
Acts passed by the Government of Madras, Legal Department(1936-1951)
Acts passed by the Government of Madras, Legislative Department (1876-1895)
Acts passed by the Madras Legislature (1921-1941)
Army Acts 1879-1949
Acts passed by the Legislative Council of India (1854-1861)

In addition to the above mentioned Acts, this category includes many other Acts on different subjects relating to Madras Presidency.

B. Agricultural publications:

Agricultural Journal of India (1906-1930)
The Agricultural Ledger (1893-1913)

The Agricultural Statistics of British India(1884-1922)

Agriculture Department year book (1918-1927)

C. Administration Reports

Reports of the administration of the Abkari Revenue in the Madras Presidency (1874-1941)

Report on the operations of the Agricultural Department, Madras Presidency (1887-1941)

Revenue Settlement and Agriculture, Madras

Season and crop report of the Madras Presidency (1904-1953)

Report of the Subordinate Officers of the Department of Agriculture, Madras(1931-1954)

Annual report of the Archaeological Survey Department (1902-1920)

Report of the administration of Civil and Criminal Justice in Madras Presidency (1849-1917)

Annual report on the Civil Dispensaries (1853-1890)

Administration report of the Civil Veterinary Department (1911-1941)

Report of the Administration of Cochin (1865-1891)

Report on the Administration of the Estates under Court of Wards in the Madras Presidency (1889-1945)

Report on the Public Instructions in the Madras Presidency (1854-1938)

Report of the Conservator of Forest, Madras Presidency (1859-1939)

Administration report of the High Court (1868-1878)

Report of the Department of Industries, Madras (1921-1942)

Report of the Administration of the Jails in the Madras Presidency (1873-1932)

Administration report of the Lunatic Asylum in the Madras Presidency (1873-1915)

Report of the Administration of the Madras Presidency (1860-1953)

Police Administration report, Madras Presidency (1866-1918) (1946-1949)

Administration report of the Madras Public Works (Railway Branch)1858-1861 1883-1900

Report on the Administration of the Registration Department in the Madras Presidency (1867-1909)

General report of the Board of Revenue to the Hon. the Governor in Council sent Home to the Court of Directors from 1786-1832

Revenue Administration report of the Madras Presidency 1859-1880)

Report on the settlement of the land revenue of the Province under the Madras Presidency (1852-1952)

Report on the Administration of the Department of Revenue in Madras Presidency and Orissa (1878-1924)

Report on Sanitary Improvements (1868-1906)

Report of the Chemical Examiner's Department (1937-1938,and 1946)

Report of the Suder Udalat on the Administration of Civil Justice under the Madras Presidency (1852-1864)

Report of the Foujdaree Udalat on the Administration of Criminal Justice under the Madras Presidency (1849-1914)

D. Reports of the Miscellaneous nature

Census reports of the various years

Report on agricultural improvements

Reports of the Drugs Commission

Report on educational matters

Report of the Indian Irrigation Commission

Report on Laccadive Islands

Reports of the Jails Reforms Committee, Madras

Election Law Reports.

The Indian Law Reports.

Report on the Mateorology of India(1883-1890)

Report on the inspection of mines in India (1895-1916)

Report of various committees and commissions

Malabar Tenancy Committee reports

Reports of the Joint Commissioners of Bengal and Bombay appointed to inspect into the state and condition of the province of Malabar in the year 1792 and 1793

E. Rules and Standing Orders

Some of the significant rules and standing orders are the following :

Educational rules

Standing orders of the district magistrate

Police Standing Orders

Standing Orders of the Board of Revenue

Standing Orders of the Travancore-Cochin Government

Standing Orders of the Kerala Government

F. Regulations

Bombay Government Regulations (1830)

Civil Service Regulations of various years

Regulations of the Fort St. George (1847)

The Regulations and Proclamations of Travancore by Shri.L.Narayanan Pandday (1010-1114 ME)

G. Law Books

A digest of Indian Law Cases (1902-1922)

Patna Law Journal (1916-1919)

Decisions, Judgements, rulings and circular orders of the Court of Foujdaree Udalat.

The civil rules of practice and circular orders issued by the High Court of Judicature of Madras for the guidance of subordinate civil courts in the Presidency

H. Manuals

Manual of the various districts of Madras Presidency (1869-1895)

Travancore State Manual (1906-1940)

Malabar Manual by William Logan (1881)

Madras Land Customs Manual (1902)

Madras Budget Manual (1925-1933)

Madras Forest Manual (1931-1940)

Income Tax Manual (1897-1918)

The Madras Jail Manual (1899-1922)

The Madras Legislative Council Manual (1924-1929)

The Madras Excise Manual (1899-1929)

Village Officers Manual (1893-1913)

The Madras Services Manual (1936-1938)
Madras Manual of Administration (3 Volumes) 1895
Panchayat Courts Manual (criminal) (1926-1936)
Madras Factories Manual (1925-1926)
Travancore Land Revenue Manual (1921-1950)
Madras Treasury Manual (1899-1902)
Manual of Statutory Rules and Orders (Madras) (1925-1931)
Air raid Precautions Training Manual (1941-1943)

I. <u>Gazetteers</u>

Kerala District Gazetteers
Imperial Gazetteer of India
Gazetteers of the various districts in the Presidency of Madras

J. <u>Books on general nature</u>

Codes
Books on educational matters
Fish and fisheries
Books relating to forest
Journel of Indian Agriculture, Minerology and Statistics (1877-1916)
Books on history
Journal of Indian Art
Books on Malabar Rebellion
The Police Journal (A Quarterly Review for the police forces of the Empire January 1928-September 1944 and July September 1954)
Books on prices and wages in india
Proceedings on Rail borne trade of the Madras Presidency (1885-1921)
Return of wrecks and casualities in Indian waters (1880-1899), (1919-1923)
Monographs on various topics
A short account of the Laccadive Islands and Minicoy by R.H.Ellis, I.C.S (1924)
List of European tombs in different districts of the Madras Presidency
Bulletins, notes and statistical statements
Madras Medical Register(1938-1953)

(There are some gaps in the series of the above mentioned archival publications)

9. PUBLICATION OF THE STATE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGES

These are the books published by the State Institute of Languages from time to time. This collection includes nearly 250 books on different branches of science, engineering, agriculture, history, constitution, economics, etc.

10. ARAKKAL PAPERS (1826-1988)

These are the records acquired from Arakkal royal house, the sole Muslim sovereignty in Kerala. They played a significant part in the political history of North Kerala from the time of the arrival of the Portuguese. The State Archives Department acquired this private collection in 2004 and they number a total of 17846. Although the rulers of Arakkal for centuries had vehement political influence and economic control, their origin is still in obscure. These records substantiate the historical fact that Arakkal Rajas consolidated their political power by purchasing Cannanore fort from the Dutch in the year 1771. The chief of this house who was called Ali Raja was one of the powerful dignitaries of the land.

When Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan had domination over North Kerala for some time, the grandeur and nobleness of Arakkal Rajas enhanced tremendously. These records unveil the fact that there was a time when they had their own currency, coin and mode of execution of law and order. In 1790 Arakkal came under the control of British when General Abar Crombi conquered Cannanore fort. Agreements made between East India Company and Arakkal Beebee in different occasions relating to the management of Laccadive Islands and other similar matters cemented the former's control over Arakkal rulers.

Like public records, private records also constitute the most object source material of history. Quite often these private records throw much light on social, economic, religious and political conditions of a country or a region. Subject list of the whole records in this category is already prepared and it is available for reference. Some noteworthy titles are cited below:

Religious rituals and practices prevailed in Arakkal Swaroopam

Madras Legislative Assembly election papers
Papers relating to the visit of some prominent personalities
Various departmental reports of Malabar Presidency
Accounts and agreements of Arakkal Swaroopam
Arakkal Malikhana
Survey and land records
Suits and judgements
Papers relating to marriages in Arakkal family.
Various Acts and Regulations
Petitions submitted to Arakkal Raja
Educational matters relating to Muslims
Annual celebrations of Muslim religious Institutions
Papers relating to Muslim League
Madras Legislative Assembly debates
Madras Legislative Council debates
Various journals and publications
Papers relating sea trade
Reference to weapons and ammunitions in the possession of Arakkal Raja
Diaries and letters
Papers relating to the payment of taxes in the Arakkal Swaroopam
Petition of Arakkal Raja to the Collector of Malabar relating to the Agreement of 1793
Jamabandi reports
Almanacs

11. MALABAR SPECIAL POLICE RECORDS (1922-1965)

Prior to the Mysorean invasion of Malabar the Naduvazhis and Desavazhi's were the only authorities to maintain law and order in the district. But with the aggression of Tipu this system of maintaining law and order came to an end. In 1792, when the British took over the administration of Malabar, a police force by the name 'Nayar Sibbandi Corps' was established. Afterwards many reorganizations were introduced in the maintenance of law and order in the district and in 1859, the police force in Malabar was divided into separate divisions – North and South.

In 1885 the Malappuram Special Police was organized temporarily as a punitive force and in 1897 this force was made permanent. It was a fine body of men holding its own with European troops in drill and signaling , and rendered a good account of itself in dealing with the various Mappila outbreaks. As a result of the Malabar rebellion of 1921, the Malappuram Special Police was disbanded and it was followed by the establishment of the Malabar Special Police. Thus the Special District Superintendent of Police at Malappuram was appointed as the Commandant of the Malabar Special Police.

It was in 1996 that these records were transferred from M.S.P. office, Malappuram to this archives. This group contains, 482 files and 600 police gazettes. All are listed subject wise. Some of the important subjects are the following.

Papers relating to Malabar Rebellion
Raja of Nilambur and Raja of Kollengode
Activities of Nationalist Muslims
Khilafat Movement
Statistics of Criminal Courts in the Madras Presidency for the year 1923
Paper relating to Port Blair convicts.
Administration Reports
Budget estimates
Monthly statement of crimes for the year 1922 and 1923
Papers relating to Civil Disobedience Movement.
Acts of various nature
Papers on criminal tribes
Communist activities in Malabar
Papers relating to State reorganization
Fairs and festivals
Police Departmental reorganizations
List of Kerala Police Gazette, the Kerala Criminal
    Intelligence Gazette and the Criminal Intelligence
    Bureau weekly crime and occurrence sheet

12. MALAPPURAM COLLECTORATE FILES (1985-1994)

As a result of the proposal for the formation of Malappuram as a separate

district by comprising the undeveloped areas of Kozhikode and Palakkad districts, it came into existence on 16th june, 1969.Now the district comprises 6 taluks namely Tirurangadi, Tirur, Ponnani, Eranad, Nilambur and Perinthalmana. It was in 1996 that these records were transferred to this archives. This category includes 332 files and their subject list is available for reference. Some of the significant topics which come under this class are the following:

Encroachment of land
Papers relating to Kerala freedom fighters pension scheme.
Minutes of the Committee meetings
Monthly progress reports
Reports of the district development committee
Administration reports
Papers relating to natural calamities
Schemes under various departments
Budget Estimates

13. PYMASH ACCOUNTS

For the first time in Malabar, land revenue system was introduced by Hyder Ali in 1776. The data relating to these accounts were originally prepared in Marathi. In 1805, Mr Thomas Warden, the Collector of Malabar issued his famous proclamation, to the land holders of Malabar calling them to furnish a true account of the details of their holdings. He also announced that an improved system of assessment, based on these accounts, would be introduced in the districts. Following his proclamation, Mr.Warden carried out the *janmi paimash* which consisted of obtaining from the *janmis* an account of the details of their wet and garden lands. Subsequently, he surveyed the wet lands and the *Hinduvi* or *Alavu Paimash* is the name that was given to the accounts prepared by the Surveyors. In spite of many inaccuracies in these accounts, Mr.Evans, the Collector of Malabar, said that up to the introduction of the settlement they were the most valuable revenue records extant in the district.

During British period, the *paimash* accounts (settlement accounts) were subjected to periodical review. It was in 1825 A.D. that accounts were originally settled. Besides *Hinduvi* or *Alavu paimash*, *Bhoomi paimash*, *Nilam*

paimash and *Pramba paimash* are also seen in this collection. More than one thousand *paimash* accounts in Malayalam manuscript are kept in this archives. As a result of the passage of time, most of them became too brittle to handle. Paimash accounts of Cherunadu, Kavay, Chirakkal, Kottayam, Kadathanad, Kurumbranad, Wayanad, Kozhikode, Eranad,Walluvanad, Nedunganad, Vettathunad, Thenmalaprom, Palakkad, Ponnani, Koottanad and Chavakkad are available. These accounts relating to a particular amsom (village)contain detailed information on various points such as name of the property, total number of trees (in the case of garden lands)number of yielding trees, rate of tax imposed for different kind of yielding trees, total amount of tax assessed, name of *jenmi* (registered owner), name of the occupant etc.

14. SURVEY SETTLEMENT REGISTERS

It was in the latter half of the 19th century that a scientific and systematic survey for the purpose of revenue settlement in different parts of the Malabar district was adopted. Till then there was no regular land register and no information was available as to the boundaries or extent of land holdings. This resulted in glaring inequalities in the assessment rates. As a result the need for a scientific survey and settlement of Malabar forced itself upon the notice of the authorities. The original survey of all Taluks was undertaken during the period 1888-1904.

The Revenue survey proper is designed to show all the principal features on the surface of the soil, such as hills, jungles, woods, channels, tanks, wells, topes, homes, etc. together with the cultivated and cultivable land, whether irrigated or unirrigated and the area of each field.

It was in 1905 that the first Revenue Settlement of all the taluks in Malabar District was completed. On the basis of the nature of the soil and extent of the land, tax on land was assessed after this settlement. These registers, generally. 'known as descriptive memoirs,' are one of the most conspicuous collections kept in this respository. They contain valuable information like situation of the desom, its total area, area under each description of land including private *jenmam*, Government *jenmam*, unregistered lands, demarcation of the *desom* including total number of survey fields, *desom* wise census of 1891 and 1901, total population in that *desom*, number of different religious sects, chief

occupation of the people, agricultural products, stocks,pasturage and forests, number of cattles, map of the *desom*, name of the land and its owner, etc.

The names of the nine taluks and total number of *desoms* in each taluk is given below:-

1. Chirakkal taluk - 272
2. Kottayam taluk - 227
3. Kurumbranad taluk - 341
4. Wayanad taluk - 58
5. Kozhikode taluk - 188
6. Eranad taluk - 220
7. Walluwanad taluk - 317
8. Ponnani taluk - 460
9. Palakkad taluk - 138

15. RESURVEY SETTLEMENT REGISTER

All the taluks in Malabar District were resurveyed between 1923 and 1935. The resettlement was based mainly on the rise in the price of standard crops in the last settlement. The system of soil classification introduced at the last settlement was retained. Lands which were hitherto described as Government *"jenmam"* and private *"jenmam"* were hereafter to be known as " new holdings" and " old holdings" respectively.

The revenue resettlement in different taluks of Malabar District was completed in 1935. They are also styled as descriptive memoric and are prepared *desom* basis. They also contain very precious information such as the situation of the *desom*, description of land according to revenue and resettlement accounts, demarcation and total number of resurvey fields, population of the *desom* as ascertained at the census of 1931, different religious sects, classification and assessment of lands, the areas of lands cultivated with chief crops, number of agricultural stocks, name of each field, class and sort of soil, rate per acre, extent and assessment of the field, class and sort of soil, rate per acre, extent and assessment of the field, number of *patta* or *inam* title deed and name of registered holders, of the land or inamdar or manager of the institution to which the land belongs, occupant jointly registered under

section 14 of Act III of 1896 as amended by Act I of 1920 etc. The registers of the taluks like Chirakkal, Wayanad, Kozhikode, Eranad and Ponnani are available although there are some gaps in the series. All these are listed and arranged *desom* basis.

16. INAM REGISTERS

An *inam* means ordinarily a gift by a superior to an inferior. In South India when the state has given up its right to the land –tax or a portion of it in favour of an individual or an institution or to remunerate persons for performing certain duties, the grant is termed an *inam* or *manyam*.

The Madras Inam Commission was established on the 16th November 1858 during the administration of Lord Harris and G.N.Taylor was appointed as Commissioner. In his reports Mr. Taylor proposed certain modes of procedure as to registration, the object of which was to carry it on through the district revenue agency, either under the orders of the Inam Commissioner or of a Member of the Board of Revenue. The Inam Commission continued as a separate department up to November 1869, when the bulk of the work having been completed. But under a pressing necessity for the reduction of imperial expenditure, it was resolved to abolish the department, and the Inam Commissioner was ordered to submit his general report. The work which remained to be done was entrusted to a member of the Board of Revenue.

Inam Registers kept in this archives are compiled by J.W. Robinson, Inam Commissioner during 1885-86. They contain data relating to the allotment of land on *Inam* basis for the maintenance of places of public worship like temples, mosques, satrams, etc. Particulars such as the nature and extent of the property allotted, by whom the *Inam* was originally granted, the purpose for which it was granted etc. are given in detail. These registers are a valid proof for the broad mindedness of Tipu Sultan who liberally granted lands in different parts of Malabar for the construction of temples. For a researcher on Tipu Sultan, these registers are of high useful. Following 7 registers are kept in this repository.

1. Calicut taluk
2. Ernad taluk
3. Kurumbranad taluk

4. Choughat taluk
5. Waynad taluk
6. Walluwanad taluk
7. Vettattunad taluk

17. FORT ST. GEORGE GAZETTE (1832-1956)

It was in 1832 that the first issue of Fort St. George Gazette was published. This collection consists of all issues of the Gazette right from 1832 to 1956 and are arranged in chronological basis.

18. GAZETTE OF INDIA (1864-1923)

This series contains the Gazette of India for the period from 1864 to 1923. They are also kept chronologically.

19. MALABAR DISTRICT GAZETTE (1858-1956)

Malabar district Gazette are valuable source material on matters relating to Malabar. This collection which are kept in chronological order comprises the period 1858-1956.

20. MADRAS POLICE GAZETTE (1895-1922)

The series of this collection begins with the issue of November 1895 and continues up to 1922. But there are many gaps in the series. Thess gazettes contains matters relating to the appointments in police department, various orders of the department, awards, acts, etc.

21. KERALA GOVERNMENT GAZETTE (1970 ONWARDS TILL DATE

This collection begins with February 1970 issue. Almost all issues of the gazettes are available in this series and they are arranged chronologically.

22. KOZHIKODE-KANNUR RAILWAY EXTENSTION FILES (1892-1902)

It was on the 8th July 1845 a Madras Railway Company was formed in London. The first general meeting of the shareholders took place in February 1846. The object of the promoters of the Company was the construction of a

railway line from Madras to Arcot. Later a new Railway Department was created in 1853.

This category of records kept here relating to the Kozhikode-Kannur railways extension deal with the acquisition of land for extension purposes of the railway line and the compensation paid for it. There are 1656 files in this category and they are listed and arranged taluk wise. Name of taluk, amsom, desom, survey number, sub division, name of land, name of owner, amount paid as compensation, etc. are detailed in this group of files. Four taluks viz. Chirakkal, Kottayam, Kurumbrand and Kozhikode are included in this series.

23. MADRAS RECORDS

These are the records transferred from Tamil Nadu Archives to Kerala State. Archives Directorate at Thiruvananthapuram. As these records are pertaining to Malabar region, they were again transferred from the Directorate to Regional Archives Kozhikode in October 2005. There are two types of records in this collection (a) Correspondence files and (b) Disposal files of the various department in the Madras Secretariat.

a. Correspondence Files (1796-1857)

These bound volumes contain letters received in the collectors office from different departments and letters sent from there. This class of records include a total number of 1710. A descriptive list which was prepared at Tamil Nadu Archives is kept for reference. This collections is of immense value as they contain a large number of varied sources of the period. Some of the significant subjects which come under this class are the following.

Papers relating to agricultural matters

Letters on construction and repair of bridges, canals, dams, public buildings, roads, etc. in Malabar

Kannur Arakkal Raja

Civil administration of Malabar province

Correspondence on revenue collection and revenue accounts of Malabar and Canara

Papers relating to Cochin orphan home

Statements of coins received into the treasury

Correspondence relating to the affairs of Coorg
Letters regarding cattle fair
Corresponence on trade and commerce in Malabar
Papers relating to currency and foreign coins
Escheated lands
Correspondence on Calicut Provincial School
Papers relating to educational matters
Export and Import of various commodities in Malabar
Management of Estates
Establishment matters in Malabar Collectorate
Papers relating to forest and forest survey
Correspondence regarding French Settlement of Mahe
Papers on exhibitions held at Malabar
Gold mines in Malabar
Matters relating to Lacadive Islands
Correspondence on Inam Survey and Settlement of the Malabar District
Jamabandy reports
Papers relating to jails and prisoners in Malabar
Correspondence on judicial Matters
Various Kovrilagams in malabar
Land assessment and tenures of Malabar
Statement showing the amount annually paid to the Marine establishments in Malabar
Papers on Malikhana
Correspondence on Mulberry Plantation in Malabar Mappila revolts
Papers relating to the murder of H.V Conolly, the Collector of Malabar
Correspondence on Kolathur and Manjeri outbreaks
Inward and outward letters in Police Department
Pychee Raja and Pychee Rebellion
Matters regarding various ports in Malabar
Papers on family pensions
Plantations in Wayanad

Pension applications of Dutch subjects
Papers relating religious institutions
Property matters
Reports on different matters relating to the affairs of Malabar
Abstract statement of robberies and other crimes of heinous nature
Tabular statements of external and internal trade in Madras territories
Correspondence on railways in Malabar
Papers on slavery and slave trade in Malabar
Survey settlement and boundary matters
Papers relating to ship building
Correspondence on state prisoners
Papers on smuggling
Stamp licence and stamp accounts
Correspondence on salt monopoly
Timber contract and timber export to Bombay and England
Papers on West Coast Canal Project in Malabar
Causes of Wayanad disturbances and expeditions to Wayanad
Papers relating to Zamorin Rajah of Kozhikode

(The physical condition of some of these manuscript records are too brittle to handle. Likewise there are a few gaps in the series)

b. Disposal Files

These are the disposal files of the different departments in the Madras Presidency between the period 1920-1956. For easy retrieval, they are classified and arranged under 9 different sections.

1. <u>PUBLIC DEPARTMENT (1920-1956)</u>

Although the Public Department was created in 1670, the series of the files under the custody of the Regional Archives begins from 1920 onwards. This category of files include multifacious topics such as

Madras Legislative Council questions and answers
Papers relating to land acquisition
Revenue establishment matters
Foreign missionaries
Criminal Procedure Code

Papers regarding newspapers and periodicals
Malikhana to Zamorin Raja of Kozhikode
Malabar Rebellion
Papers relating to elections
Ecclesisatical papers
Brennen Endowment Funds
Papers relating to Second World War and Air Raid Precautions
Wayanad colonization scheme
Post war reconstructions
Acts and rules of the Madras government
Papers relating to census
Riots and disturbances
Matters relating to law and order and Communist activities in Malabar
Papers on community projects
Labour agitation in Malabar
State reorganization
Papers regarding local development works

There are 2046 files in the Public Department and are listed subject wise and arranged chronologically.

II. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (1920-1955)

In the beginning, Education was one of the branches in Home Department and as a result all matters relating to education were dealt within that Department. But on the 1st July 1926, Law and Education were combined to function as a single department under the charge of a secretary. Again another re-organization was effected on 1st August 1936 and from that onwards the Department was called Education and Public Health. In 1953 the Department was renamed as Health, Education and Local Administration. The following are the subjects which outstand in this class:

Papers on charitable endowments
Establishment matters of the Education Department
Papers relating to District Educational Council, Malabar
Lands acquired for constructing educational institutions
Madras Legislative Council questions and answers
Budget estimates on Educational matters

Papers regarding Educational training

Inspection reports on Educational institutions

Elementary Educational fund

Madras Educational rules

Subjects regarding adult education

Hindu Religious endowments

Papers relating to the Colleges in Malabar

Educational concessions granted to children and dependants of soldiers of Second World War

This group contains 3554 files and their subject list is available for reference. They are also arranged chronologically.

III. DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT(1921-1952)

It was in 1921 that the Development Department came into existence to deal with the subjects like agriculture, co-operation, civil supplies, factories, fisheries, forests, industries, mines, trade, veterinary, etc. But in 1949, functions relating to agriculture were transferred from Development Department to the Food Department and the nomenclature was changed to that of Food and Agriculture Department. Some noticeable topics in this category are detailed below:

Papers relating to Industries and Fisheries.

Lands acquired for different purposes

Matters relating to forests

Agricultural matters

Papers regarding depressed classes

Boundary descriptions

Wayanad Colonization Scheme

Matters relating to labour disputes

Various Acts and Rules

Papers relating to Co-operative Societies and Civil Supplies

Textiles and Mills

Papers relating to post war reconstructions

Rural reconstructions

Papers regarding the Madras Temple Entry Authorization Act

Tere are 5265 files in the Development Department. All are subject wise listed and arranged chronologically.

IV. REVENUE DEPARTMENT (1920 – 1956)

As noted earlier, Revenue as a separate department came into existence in1774. The series of this category of files began in 1920 continued up to 1956. There are 4646 files in this department and they are subject wise listed and arranged chronologically. Some important subjects which come across in the list are the following:

Administration report on revenue matters
Appointment of teachers in educational institutions
Papers relating to industries and fisheries
Acts of various nature
Acquisition of land
Papers on teak plantations
Zamorin Raja of Kozhikode
Nilambur Kovilagam
Papers relating to fish curing yard
Suits of various nature
Canolly Canal
Boundary matters
Papers relating to depressed classes
Taluk office establishment matters
Wayanad Colonization Scheme
Papers relating to survey and resurvey
Various rules

V. LAW DEPARTMENT (1921-1956)

In the Presidency of Madras, Judicial Department was established in 1798. To deal with all matters relating to law, a separate Law Department was created in the Secretariat in1815. But as a result of the reorganizations in 1831, the Chief Secretary was given the additional charge of Public Department which comprised the branch of law also. Again in 1926, the work

was revised and Law and Education Departments were combined to function as a single Department under the charge of a Secretary. From 1st August 1936 onwards Legal Department began to function as a separate department and in 1953 it was again called as Law Department. The following subjects can be seen under this head :

Madras Legislative Assemblty interpellations on different subjects
Acts of various nature including Tenancy Improvement Act
Matters relating to jails and prisoners
Establishment matters in Law Department
Papers relating to Tenancy Bill
Appointments of kazis in Malabar
Malabar Rebellion
Village Panchayat Courts
Political agitations in Malabar
Escheat (Koothali Nair's Property)
Malabar peasant agitation
Papers relating to legislative assembly elections.
The Madras Nambudiri Bill
The Madras Marumakkathayam Bill
The Madras Temple Entry Bill
Newspapers and periodicals
Papers relating to pilgrimage to Hedjaz

This category contains a total of 1100 files and all are listed subject wise and arranged chronologically.

VI. LOCAL SELF GOVT.DEPARTMENT (1920-1956)

As a result of the revised nomenclature for the various departments adopted on 1st August 1916, Local and Municipal Department came into existence. It dealt with all matters relating to Local, Municipal, Plague etc. Later the redistribution of work in the various departments was again reviewed in 1936, and this department came to be called as Local Self Govt Department. In 1953 it was renamed as Health, Education and Local Administration Department. The details of the available records in this group are given below:

Activities of the Malabar District Board, Taluk Boards and Panchayat Boards

Functioning of the various municipalities in Malabar

Papers relating to hospitals and leper asylums at Kozhikode

Legislative Assembly/Council questions

Budget estimates of the municipalities, district board and taluk boards

Acts relating to local administration

Papers relating to provincial grants to municipalities

Opening of educational institutions

Papers relating to taxes in municipalities

Land Acquisitions

Construction of roads and bridges

Administration reports of the Malabar District Board

Administration reports of the various municipalities in Malabar

Papers relating to elections to Malabar District Board, Taluk Boards and other municipalities

Allotment of grants to Malabar district board and taluk board for various purposes

Papers relating to medical institutions

Matters regarding Harijan Welfare activities

Papers relating to the measures taken against contageous diseases

Files relating to Rural Welfare Department

There are 6401 files in this department and all are listed subject wise and arranged chronologically.

VII. PUBLIC HEATH DEPARTMENT (1921-1956)

For a long time all matters relating to Health were dealt in Revenue Department. It was in 1786 that a Hospital (Medical) Board was constituted within the Revenue Department. As a result of the various reorganizations in the Secretariat, Public Health was amalgamated with Education in 1936 and thence forward it came to be called as Education and Public Health Department. Again the nomenclature was changed and it was renamed as Health, Education and Local Administration Department. Some noticeable subjects which come under this department are the following:

Acts of various nature
Audit reports of the Public Health Department
Allotment of grants for various purposes
Papers relating to burning and burial grounds
Opening of dispensaries and health centres
Establishment matters in Health Department
Fairs and festivals
Papers relating to the scheme of Anti-filariasis measures
Lands acquired for various purposes
Papers of Hospital advisory committees
Legislative Assembly/Council questions
Lunatic asylums
Papers relating to Municipal hospitals and other medical institutions
Medical relief works
Nercha files
Papers relating to plague
Reports on the outbreaks of contageous diseases
Papers relating to town planning
Wynad Colonization Scheme

There are 4387 files in Public Health Department and they are listed subject wise and arranged chronologically.

VIII. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (1920-1753)

It was in 1843 that Public Works Department came into existence as a separate department. However as a measure of facilitating the administrative functions, Public Works and Roads Department was entrusted to the Revenue Secretary and this arrangement continued till 1857. Afterwards the administration of P.W.D. was given to the Secretary and Joint Secrertary of the Department. But on the 1st July 1926, the distribution of work in various departments of the Secretaries was revised again and as a result Irrigation and Railway Departments were merged with P.W.D. and Labour Department was placed under the charge of Secretary. Again on 1st April 1936, the Secretariat was reorganized and P.W.D. became a separate department. The following subjects can be seen under this head.

Assignment of land for various purposes
Acts
Papers relating to buildings
Budget estimates
Canals and ferries
Churches of Malabar
Papers relating to contract road fund works
Improvements and maintenance of dams
Papers relating to depressed classes
Supply of electricity
Establishement matters of Public Works Department
Papers relating to emigration
Financial assistance given to evacuees
Fisheries
Papers relating to various irrigation projects
Kanhirapuzha and other reservoir projects
Legislative Assembly Questions on various subjects
Malampuzha Project
Papers relating to Madras Electrical Subordinate Service
Madras Port Subordinate Service, Madras Engineering, Subordinate service, Madras Boiler Service, etc.
Papers relating to various ports in Malabar
Correspondence on Railways

This department contains a total number of 6272 files. All files in this category are listed subjectwise and arranged chronologically.

IX. VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS (1909-1956)

This category includes files created in different departments such as Home, Judicial, Revenue (Special), Marine Department, Finance (Marine) Department, Rural Welfare Department, Rural (Firka) Department, Ecclesiastical Department, Public (Political) Department, Public(Police) Department, Education and Public Health Department, Food and Agriculture Department, etc. Following are some of the significant titles which come under this group of files.

Acts
Administration reports
Papers relating to agricultural matters
Correspondence on various departmental enquiries
Devaswom administration
Establishment matters of Home Department
Marumakkathayam
Papers relating to endowments
Charitable endowments
Evacuees from Burma, Malaya, etc.
Escheat
French colonization in India
Papers relating to the extension of stay of foreigners in India.
Lands acquired for various purposes
Malikhana allowance
Papers relating to Malabar Tenancy
Prisoners
Papers relating to ports of Malabar
Passport applications
Papers relating to repatriation from India to Malaya
Statistic of civil and criminal courts
Suits
Papers relating to town planning
Working of village courts

There are a total number of 1400 files in this group and are listed order subjectwise and arranged in chronological order. This category also includes a large number of stock files of the above mentioned departments.

24. ANDAMAN COLONIZATIONFILES (1922)

These are the files relating to the Malabar Rebellion of 1921. A total collection of 4594 files in this group deal with the various aspects connected with the rebellion. Regional Archives Kozhikode holds valuble records relating to Andaman colonization. The details of the available records in this group are given below:

List of convicts with names of their relatives who have expressed their willingness to go to Andaman

Deportation of Mappila families

Papers relating to request for compensation charge sheets given to the accused

List of persons admitted in the Government Headquarter Hospital, and in the Women and Children Hospital, Calicut for treatment for the injuries caused by the Mappila rebels

Papers relating to Malaber Special Commissioners proposals for reconstruction

List of items looted and destroyed by rebels

Papers relating to the surrender of rebels.

Criminal appeals

Papers relating to the arrest warrant

List of Mappila Rebellion offenders – suspension of sentences and levy of fines in instalments

Papers relating to verdicts

25. SELECTED RECORDS (1802-1971)

These are the selected records of multifarious nature which contain manuscripts, printed matters and xerox copies. They also include the files of different departments. This category has a total number of 179 records and they are listed subjectwise. Some of the significant topics under this head of rrecords are noted below:

Enquiry regarding the boundary of Cochin state and the British territory

Lease deeds

Escheated lands

Papers relating to Malikhana

Malabar Rebellion

Zamorin and other Rajahs of Malabar

Various reports relating to the affairs of Malabar

Papers relating to A.K Gopalan

Correspondence relating to Laccadive Islands and Arakkal Raja

Various agreements and treaties relating to the affairs of Malabar

Waste lands in Wayanad taluk

Papers relating to Devaswoms

Political Agitations in Malabar

Malabar District Board

Papers relating to Revenue administration of Malabar

The Rev. Dr Kerr's Memoris on Malabar Christains (1806)

Report of the Sub-Committee of he Madras Literary Society and auxiliary of the Royal Asiatic Society on writing Indian words in Roman character (1859)

An Atlas of the southern part of India including plans of all the principal town and cantonments(1854)

A collection of letters relating to the compilation of Malabar District Manual by W.Logan (1878-1888)

List of place names in Malabar District

Papers relating to Kolathur riot(1873-1874)

26. PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS (1921-1956)

These are the proceedings of the Legislative Council of the Governor of Madras covering the period 1921-1956. These proceedings contain the following titles.

Madras Legislative Council debates-official report

Proceedings of the Legislative Council-official report

Index to Madras Legislative Council debates.

Index to the proceedings of the Legislative Council of the Governor of Madras

This collection includes a total number of 731 volumes and are listed and arranged chronologically.

27. MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES(1937-1956)

This collection contains Madras Legislative Assembly debates, official reports and index to Madras Legislative Assembly debates. There are 839 volumes which are listed and arranged chronologically.

28. REVENUE DEPARTMENT FILES TRANSFERRED FROM CENTRAL ARCHIVES, TRIVANDRUM(1922-1944)

These are the Revenue Department files which were housed at Trivandrum Central Archives and afterwards transferred to this repository in 2005 together with Madras records. All these files are related to Malabar region and they cover the period from 1922 to 1944. The subject list of the whole files have been prepared and this group contains a total number of 1676, and are arranged chronologically. Some of the conspicuous titles which come under this group are the following.

Alienation of land
Acts of various nature
Charitable endowments
Canals and ferries
Establishment matters of Revenue Department
Papers relating to escheat
Encroachment of lands
Forests
Papers relating to irrigation
Jambandy reports
Acquisition of land for various purposes
Malabar Rebellion
Navigation
Papers relating to revenue recovery
Relinquishment of lands
Papers relating to survey
Settlement and resettlement papers
Suits of various nature
Papers relating to transfer of land

29. PALMLEAF RECORDS

This repository houses nearly ten thousand palm leaves which are kept in 372 separate small bundles tied with wooden splints. Most of them are related to land under the possession of Kannur Arakkal royal family and the scripts used in them are Vattezhuthu, Kolezhuthu and Malayalam. Some other consequential subjects are the following

Matters relating to accounts
Collection of taxes
Deeds
Hymns on Lord Krishna and Siva
Sanskrit Grammer
Astronomy
Matters relating to boundary
Ayurveda treatment

30. PROCEEDING OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE AND THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT

This collection contains various proceedings issued by the Board of Revenue and Madras Government in course of their day to day administrative transactions. This group also includes indices of many departments in the Madras Presidency. A brief description of each category is detailed below.

1. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (1861 May to 1887 March)
   Total number of volumes 372
2. Proceeding of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue)1887 April to 1922 Febbruary Total number of volumes 445
3. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue and Settlement)
   1922 February -1945 December
   1947 January –December
   1953 July – December
   Total number of volumes 108
4. Proceedings (Miscellaneous and Press Series) of the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue and Irrigation) (1940-1953)
   Total number of volumes 37
5. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue(Revenue Settlement, Land Records and Agriculture) (1887 April-1922 January)
   Total number of volumes 443
6. Proceedings of the Board Of Revenue (Separate Revenue) (1887 April -1938)
   Total number of volumes 501

7. Proceedings of the Commissioner of Excise and of the Board of Revenue (Separate Revenue) (1925-1935)
   Total number of volumes 11
8. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Excise) 1938-1946
   Total number of volumes 21
9. Proceedings of the Commissioner of Excise (Madras) 1925-1937
   Total number of volumes 44
10. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue in the Forest Department (Forest Series) 1872 June 1903 December
    Total number of volumes 56
11. Index to the proceedings as the Court of Wards(1891-1935)
    Total number of volumes 28
    (There are many gaps in this series)
12. Index to the proceedings (Miscellaneous) of the Board of Revenue (Settlement of Estates) (1950-1953)
    Total number of volumes 4
13. Board of Revenue proceedings of the Madras Government (1953-1955)
    Total number of volumes 9
14. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government Local Self Government Department (Local and Municipal) (1923-1936)
    Total number of volumes 14
15. Index of the proceedings of the Madras Government Local Self Government Department (Public Health)(1924-1936)
    Total number of volumes 13
16. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government Local Administration Department (1937-1941)
    Total number of volumes 5
17. Proceedings of the Board of Revenue (Income tax)(1920-21)
    Total number of volumes 2
18. Index to the proceedings of the Commissioner of Salt Revenue for the year 1878-1883
    Total number of volume 1
19. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government in the Eeclesiastical (1923-1941)
20. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government in the Development

Department (1924-1925)
Total number of volumes 2

21. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government in Education Department (1936-1937)
Total number of volumes 2
22. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government in Education and Public Health Department (Education) (1938-1941)
Total number of volumes 4
23. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government in Education and Public Health Department (Public Health) (1937-1942)
Total number of volumes 6
24. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government in Finance Department (1923-1941)
Total number of volumes 19
25. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government in Finance Department (Central Subjects) (1924-1925)
Total number of volumes 2
26. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government in Finance Department (Ecclesiastical) (1926-1935)
Total number of volumes 10
27. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Finance Department) (1923-1935)
Total number of volumes 13
28. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Finanace Department) (Pension) (1923-1941) Total number of volumes 19
29. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Finanace Department) (Separate Revenue) (1923)
Total number of volume 1
30. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Home Department) (1936, 1938-1940)
Total number of volumes 4
31. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Judicial Department) (Magisterial (1923-1924)
Total number of volumes 2
32. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Judicial Department)

(Police) 1923-1924
Total number of volumes 2

33. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Judicial Department) (1925-1928)
Total number of volumes 4
34. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Law Department) (Education) (1923-1935)
Total number of volumes 13
35. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Law Department) (General) (1923-1935)
Total number of volumes 13
36. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Law Department) (Legislative) (1923-1936)
Total number of volumes 14
37. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Law Department) (Registration) (1923-1926, 1931,1932)
Total number f volumes 6
38. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Legal Department) (1938-1940)
Total number of volumes 2
39. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Political Department) (1924-1928)
Total number of volumes 5
40. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Public Department) (1923-1940)
Total number of volumes 18
41. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Public Department) (Police) (1930-1935)
Total number of volumes 6
42. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Public Department) (Political) (1929-1935)
Total number of volumes 7
43. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Public Works Department) (1925,1936-1941)
Total number of volumes 7

44. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Public Work Department) (General Buildings and Roads) (1924)
    Total number of volumes 1
45. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Public Work Department) (Irrigation) (1926-1934) (1923-1924)
    Total number of volumes 2
46. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Public Works and Labour Department) (1926-1934)
    Total number of volumes 9
47. Index to the proceedings of the Madras Government (Revenue Department) (1923-1941)
    Total number of volumes 19
48. Municipal Index (1890-1914)
    Total number of volumes 11
49. Index to the disposals of the Malabar Collectorate records (1911-1952)
    Total number of volumes 50
50. Index of Acts (1860-1906) Vol. I
51. Index of Acts (1907-1916)Vol. II
52. General Index These are the general indices of the various departments like Public (General, Public Revenue, Sea Customs, Magisterial, Accounts, Abkari and Forest for the period 1893-1914.
    Total number of volumes 78

31. <u>GENERAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REVENUE (1801-1835)</u>

This collection contains the General Reports of the Board of Revenue to the Hon Governoer in Council and to the Court of Directors. The Following volumes are available in this series

Volume Numbers 7,8,9 dated 20th February 1801 to 20th February 1804., 16,17,18 dated from 11th February 1811 to 4th February 1813., 19,20 dated from 1st January 1814 to 11th February 1815., 21,22,23 dated from 26th December 1815 to 6th January 1817., 27,28,29 dated from 3rd January 1820 to 4th January 1821., 30,31 dated from 3rd January 1822 to 2nd January 1823., 32,33 dated 5th January 1824., 34,35,36,37 –dated from 3rd January 1825 to 2nd January 1826., 38,39 –dated 4th January 1827., 42,43-dated 3rd

January 1829., dated 3rd February 1931., 50-dated 12th January 1832 and 59,60,61-dated 16th March 1835.

32. JANMAM DEEDS (1890)

These are the records relating to land. The Honourable Secretary of State for India in Council who is the possessor and the one entitled to the Janmam right to the purchaser of that particular land subject to the payment of quit rent by him to the former. There are a total number of 3256 Janmam deeds kept in this repository. Out of which 3194 belong to Ponnani Taluk. They give the details such as the situation of the land which includes the registration district, registration sub-district, taluk, amsom, desom, description of land, whether nunja, punja or garden name of land and register number, quit –rent payable to government for janmam right measurement, boundaries etc. In addition to Ponnani, a few Janmam deeds of the following taluks are also available.

Cochin	: 16
Palakkad	: 2
Walluwanad	: 7
Eranad	: 22
Kozhikode	: 11
Kurumbranad	: 3
Kottayam	: 1

33. CIVIL SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT FILES(1944-1960)

All matters relating to Civil Supplies were dealt within the Board of Revenue which was created on 20th June 1786. Later when Development Department was formed in 1921, civil supplies became a part of it. But in 1946, civil supplies was designated as a separate independent department viz Food Department. In 1949 all matters relating to agriculture were transferred from Development Department to the Food Department and the nomenclature was changed to that of Food and Agricultural Department.

The records in this series are one of the biggest collections kept in this repository. They number 63008 in total and are listed subject wise and arranged in chronological basic. The following subjects come under this head.

Distribution of grains

Establishment matters in the department

Import of wheat and rice

Papers relating to textile mills
Procurement of food grains
Papers relating to handlooms industry
Price of paddy and salt
Papers relating to Producers cum Consumers
Co-operative Societies (P.C.C.S)
Statement showing market price of rice
Storage of food grains in government godowns
Report of food position
Rationing areas
Report of rainfall
Statement showing the quantity of copra crushed, oil extracted and cake produced
Statement showing the consumption of cotton in mills
Statements showing the price trend and general supply position of sugar
Working of rice mills

34. KASARGOD TALUK OFFICE AND HOSDURG TALUK OFFICE RECORDS

Till 1957 Kasargod was a taluk of the South Kanara district with Mangalore as its headquarters. Later as a part of the State Reorganization, Kasargod taluk was ceded to Kerala State. But on January 1957 this taluk was divided into two – Kasargod and Hosdurg and came to be called as Kasargod taluk office and Hosdurg taluk office respectively.

a. Kasargod taluk office files(1955)

This collection consists of the files of the Kasargod taluk office for the year 1955 only. Regional Archives, Kozhikode acquired these files in 2006 and they number 111 in total. Following are some of the important subjects in this group.

Land acquired for various purposes
Establishment matters in Revenue Department
Opening of ferries
Papers relating to census
Reorganization of the Police Department
Various Acts and Regulations.

Papers relating to pension.

b. Hosdurg taluk office files (1905-1980)

It was on 15th May 2008 that Hosdurg taluk office files were transferred to this repository. This series contains a total number of 145 files. Some of the significant topics in this collection are the following.

Proceedings of the Revenue Board
Papers relating to land acquisition
Financial assistance to evacuees and others
Reports on various subjects
Pension papers
Papers on live stock census of 1971
Papers relating to natural calamities

35. MAPS

a. Survey and Resurvey Maps

This category includes Revenue Survey and Resurvey maps of the various taluks in Malabar District. All these are listed and arranged desom and amsom basis although there are a few gaps in the series. The details of the taluks and total number of maps available in that particular taluk are given below.

	Name of Taluk	No.of Survey Maps	No.of Resurvey maps
1.	Chirakkal	272	272
2.	Kottayam	226	218
3.	Kurumbranad	328	299
4.	Wynad	57	57
5.	Kozhikode	173	180
6.	Eranad	211	94
7.	Walluwanad	230	288
8.	Ponnani	304	83
9.	Palakkad	111	56

This series contains a total number 3459 maps.

B. Selected Maps

This group consists of different kinds of maps of the Malabar District and neighbouring places. Maps of various nature relating to the nine taluks of Malabar are included in this category, A detailed list of the selected maps is prepared and they number 450 in total.

C. Folded Maps

These are the large size maps of the 9 taluks of the Malabar District. They are prepared on the basis of desom wise.

36. KAVALAPPARA PAPERS

The Kavalappara Swaroopam is considered to be one of the prominent Naduvazhies of South Malabar and their estate extended from the north of Bharathapuzha including a large area of the present day Ottappalam Taluk in Palakkad District. Its area spread roughly 260 square kms. It is said that this estate traces its origin from Cheraman Perumal who divided his kingdom among the Naduvazhies. The title of the ruler of this Swaroopam was 'Mooppil Nair'. Like other Naduvazhies of South Malabar, Kavalappara Mooppil Nair also accepted the sovereignty of Zamorin of Kozhikode. Later the English East India Company gave them Malikhana and they became a part of British India.

State Archives Department acquired the records of this estate in March 2009 and they number 9185 in total. All records of this series have been listed subject wise. This collection contains a few palm leaves also. Some of the significant titles are the following.

Papers relating Kavalappara Estate
Various registers kept in the Estate
Records relating to land
Suits
Survey records
Administration reports
Papers relating to Arayankavu Temple
Statement of expenditure in the Kavalappara Estate

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